# WYOMING MEMORIAL

BATTLE & MASSACRE

1778 1878

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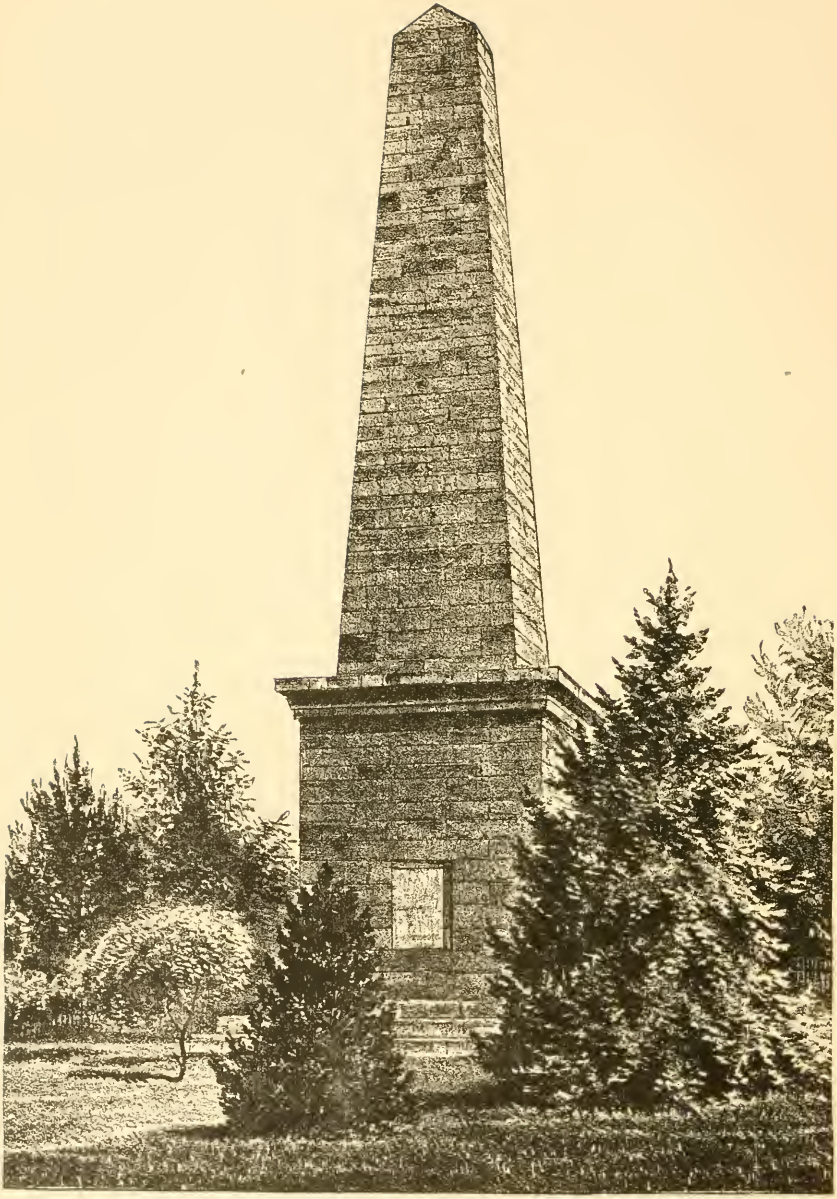

From a Photograph by C. F. Cook, Wilkesbarre, Pa.

# THE WYOMING MONUMENT.

# WYOMING.

A RECORD OF THE

# ONE HUNDREDTH YEAR

COMMEMORATIVE OBSERVANCE

—OF THE—

# BATTLE AND MASSACRE,

JULY 3, 1778. —— JULY 3, 1878.

*"An honest tale speeds best when plainly told."*

EDITED BY WESLEY JOHNSON, ESQ.

Secretary of the Association.

WILKESBARRE PA

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WESLEY JOHNSON, STEUBEN JENKINS,

EDMUND L. DANA, HARRY HAKES.

DANIEL S. BENNET.

# PREFACE.

This volume is put forth under the patronage of the "Wyoming Memorial Association," in order that the facts and incidents connected with the one hundredth anniversary commemorative observance of the "Battle and Massacre of Wyoming," may be preserved for the benefit of the future generations which may inhabit this historic valley.

In arranging the details, the compiler, acting for the committee, has steadily kept in view the fact, that what is common place now, will be curious and interesting in the future. Every thing therefore, promising to be of interest to the future reader has been carefully and truthfully noted so that in the event of one of these volumes coming down to the men of the Bi-centennial of the event to which it relates, they will be enabled to read in authentic form, of what was done by their great-grandfathers in 1878.

W. J.

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## THE ASSOCIATION.

By an order of the Court of Common Pleas of Luzerne County, the 31st day of December, 1881, this Association is made a body corporate, under the name and style of

"THE WYOMING COMMEMORATIVE ASSOCIATION."

The application for such charter, and proofs relative thereto, were entered of record in the Recorder's Office of Luzerne County on the 6th day of February 1882, in Incorporation Docket, page 467, &c.

### NAMES OF INCORPORATORS.

CHARLES DORRANCE,
EDMUND L. DANA,
STEUBEN JENKINS,
GARRICK M. HARDING,
WESLEY JOHNSON,
ABEL BARKER,
L. D. SHOEMAKER,
HARRY HAKES,
R. J. WISNER,
PAYNE PETTEBONE,
D. S. BENNET,
STANLEY WOODWARD,
CALVIN PARSONS.

### OFFICERS.

CHARLES DORRANCE, President.
E. L. DANA, L. D. SHOEMAKER, CALVIN PARSONS, H. HOLLISTER and STEUBEN JENKINS, Vice Presidents.
HARRY HAKES, Treasurer.
WESLEY JOHNSON, Recording Secretary.
ABEL BARKER, Corresponding Secretary.
D. S. BENNET, Librarian.

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# WYOMING.

## INTRODUCTORY.

FAR inland from New England's bleak coasts, and seemingly hid away among a wide range of rugged mountain spurs through which the crooked Susquehanna pursues its resistless course to the Sea, was found by hardy explorers in the early part of the 18th century, a valley of surprising loveliness and fertility. This was the now far famed Valley of Wyoming. But the region of country known as Wyoming, to the original colonists from Connecticut, who first came hither, covered a much larger territory than that embraced within the bounds of the beautiful and classic Valley that now bears the name; and it may be said to have referred in an indefinite sort of a way to nearly all the surrounding country lying within the boundaries of Luzerne, Wyoming, Lackawanna and Bradford counties, but the valley proper, was the centre and attractive point—the heart—the extremities being but dimly outlined.

Small and insignificant as was the original Wyoming in its mountain fastness, it has yet had the honor, in consequence of the story of the stirring events enacted on

its soil, of giving a name to an important Territory, in the far-west, soon to become one of the great States of our Union; as also to counties and towns in almost every one of the several States.

## THE BEAUTIFUL LAND.

That Wyoming Valley in its pristine condition was a "land of beauty", as has been said by one of England's great poets, there yet remains enough in its charming landscapes, still unmarred by progress, as well as by its rugged surroundings, clearly to attest. That it is a "land of blood", the pages of history tell us that its fair fields are blotched all over with the life current of its early settlers, slain by savages, or in internecine strife.

Its natural beauty is the admiration of all persons of æsthetic tastes, who, for the first time behold its enchanting loveliness. It was this feeling that impelled a distinguished stranger, a visitor in June 1877, when he for the first time gazed upon the Valley clothed in all the wealth of its early summer beauty, as he stood upon a "culm dump" on an elevated position near the spot where the first settlers here built their rude huts, and mournfully observing how the many other colleries in sight were piling up their miniature mountains of black and unsightly refuse from the mines, to exclaim in agony of spirit, "My God! It is unpardonable desecration for man to mar so lovely a prospect as this."

What we now call "Wyoming" was originally written as "Wywaumick", which word is said to be a corruption of the Indian compound, Maughwau-wauma; Maughwah or Muckwah being a name common among many of the Indian Tribes of Algonquin Stock for a bear; wauwauma signifying a plain or flat country. Therefore Wyoming, as we pronounce it, a word of exceeding beauty and sweetness of expression, to the aborigines of the country meant nothing more than Bear Valley, or a place abounding in bears, as it probably was; just as Mauch-wa-Chunk was the Big Bear hill or mountain; perhaps some unusual in-

cident connected with the killing of a bear having occurred there. The name Tamaqua may also be traced to the same source.

### THE WHITE MAN ENTERS.

The first European of whom we have any authentic information, to enter the Valley, was the Count Zinzendorf of Saxony, a zealous Moravian Missionary, who came here in 1742, on a prospecting tour among the Indian Tribes, remaining but a short time in the Valley. It is said however, that during the previous year a Missionary from New England, one Thomas Sargeant, came over fom the Delaware and preached a sermon to the Indians on the banks of the Susquehanna, but the precise place is not known, and it may have been anywhere from Sunbury on the South to Tioga Point on the North.

The Wyoming of bloody record was mainly settled by emigrants from Connecticut, and the region known as such constituted a county under home jurisdiction to which the name West-more-land was given, as describing its relation to the mother Colony; as Connecticut under its Charter from King Charles, extended from Naragansett Bay on the East, to the Pacific Ocean on the West, this Wyoming region being embraced within its boundaries, was then considered as being an integral part of its territory. The first attempt of the Connecticut people to establish a permanent settlement here, was made in 1762 by the holders of what was called shares, in the Susquehanna Land Company's purchase from the Six Tribes or Nations of the Iroquois. The first attempt at colonization ended disastrously to the hardy pioneers, as during the following year, after twenty of their number had been murdered by the savages, the remainder were forced to abandon their rude huts at the mouth of Mill Creek and return to their friends in the East; baffled but not defeated; cast down, but not wholly discouraged in the further prosecution of their colonization scheme.

### PENNSYLVANIA ASSERTS HER CLAIM.

In the year 1768 the Proprietary Government of Pennsylvania obtained a Deed of purchase from the Indians at Fort Stanwix of a large extent of territory situate on the upper waters of the Susquehanna, including the lands previously bought by the Susquehanna Land Company, and claimed as being within the jurisdiction of Connecticut. Late in the year, a squad of men, under Pennsylvania authority, was sent here to occupy and hold the rich lands of the Valley. This expedition was of a semi-military character, and was accompanied by John Jennings, the High Sheriff of Northampton County, to act as peace officer, should other parties be found claiming the lands. This force arrived in the Valley early in January 1769, and established itself in the abandoned huts that had been left by the fugitive Yankee Colony of 1763, and immediately commenced surveying and parceling off the lands by establishing two Manors, Stoke and Sunbury; the one on the East and the other on the West side of the river.

### SECOND CONNECTICUT COLONY.

In February of the same year another advance detachment of forty emigrants from Connecticut, representing the Susquehanna Land Company arrived in the Valley, and finding their expected shelters in possession of the Pennsylvania party, they at once invested the strong hold of Major Ogden, commander of the little army of occupation, and the long and bloody strife that afterwards raged between the Yankee and Pennsylvania claimants to the Valley was inaugurated. The Yankees in this campaign were finally expelled by the Pennsylvanians, fortunately without loss of life to either party.

The next year saw the strife renewed. There was no end of skirmishing. Battles were fought. Many lives were lost on both sides. The Pennsylvanians were in turn driven from the Valley in 1769, and Connecticut held absolute possession in Wyoming for several years.

Upon the expulsion of the Pennsylvanians hope and confidence began to prevail at Wyoming. Settlements on the west side of the river were prosecuted. Old Forty Fort, so prominent in the subsequent history of the Valley, was constructed, and the Colonists felt themselves secure in their possessions.

But this happy condition for these far away frontier Colonists was again to be interrupted, and they found themselves called upon once more to take up arms in defence of their firesides and homes.

Sometime in 1775 the Supreme Executive Council in Philadelphia, decided upon making another effort to drive out the Connecticut people, by sending a strong military force under the command of Col. Plunkett ; this expedition is known in history as "Plunkett's invasion." In December 1775, seven hundred Pennsylvania troops of this command, attempted to enter the Valley through Nanticoke Gap, where now is situate the Inlet Lock of the Susquehanna Canal. The Connecticut men had armed themselves to oppose the invasion, and were securely posted behind a breastwork of rocks and logs hastily thrown up on the narrow flat at this point. As the Pennsylvanians came within range of the rifles of the settlers, they poured an effective fire into the ranks of the invaders, who did not anticipate such determined action on the part of the Yankees, as they had been led to believe that the settlers would be over-awed by so formidable a force. In this conflict the Pennsylvanians were completely routed, and retired in a demoralized condition, leaving several of their number dead on the field of their discomfiture. This was the last attempt by Pennsylvania authority to reduce the settlers of Wyoming by force. Eventually however, she obtained under a Decree of the High Court sitting at Trenton, to decide the question of Jurisdiction as between Connecticut and herself, what she failed to win by force of arms over these determined New Englanders. But even this Decree, while deciding ad-

versely to Connecticut's right of Jurisdiction in Wyoming, still the rights of soil acquired by the people under Connecticut law, were subsequently to a certain extent respected, and the settlers permitted to hold their lands upon payment of moderate fees and taking by Patents under the Pennsylvania authority.

It is not within the scope of this history of a special event, to further trace the varying fortunes of these determined Colonists with foes, both savage and colonial, but at once proceed to detail a few facts concerning the situation in the Spring of 1778, the year of their great calamity now under consideration, in order that the reader not familiar with the local history of the Valley, may be the better enabled to appreciate the significance and propriety of the first 100th year memorial demonstration at Wyoming just closed, to perpetuate the facts and incidents of which, this volume is designed to accomplish.

## THE GATHERING STORM.

The American Colonies were in arms against the mother country. Wyoming had sent the best and bravest of her sons to augment the army of Washington, as a portion of the Connecticut Contingent. Early in the Spring Congress was apprised of a meditated attack upon Wyoming, to proceed from Niagara, and the Indian country adjacent thereto, and in the town of Westmoreland rumors were rife that the British and Indians were preparing an expedition for the destruction of the settlement. This attack to be made upon an isolated and defenceless settlement, seems hardly justifiable in civilized warfare, as no advantage could be gained to the cause of the King by destroying the lives and property of this people, remaining peaceably at home tilling their farms, and far removed from the theatre of war. But in this connection it may be stated that it is more than probable that the expedition may have been instigated and inspired by the loyalists or tories who had been driven from the country, and who may have supposed that by the extermina-

tion of the hated Yankees, they could, not only be revenged upon them for the wrongs they had suffered at the hands of the rebels, as they considered the Yankees to be, but that by expelling them they could again be put in possession of the fertile farms of which they had been so unjustly deprived. In support of this theory, Alexander Patterson, of unsavory memory in Wyoming, in 1804, writes of these refugee loyalists, "their address and moving complaints, induced Joseph Brandt, a well known Indian Chief, and a Col. Butler, Superintendant of Indian Affairs, to come with them to Wyoming, with a number of Indians, for the recovery of their property, goods and chattels." As early as in 1784, Benjamin Pauling, one of these tories, writing from Niagara, says: "that the Pennsylvania claimants were the people that cut off the Connecticut settlers at Wyoming."

It will be seen by the foregoing extract from Mr. Patterson's letter, that he asserts positively that Brandt accompanied Col. John Butler to Wyoming. On the other hand, Col. Guy Johnson, in an official letter to Lord George Germain, dated New York, September 10th 1778, only two months after the battle, says: "that he had sent one division under Col. Butler down the Susquehanna, which destroyed the Post and settlement at Wyoming, and that another division under Mr. Brandt, the Indian Chief, cut off two hundred and ninety four men near Schoharrie, and destroyed the adjacent settlement."

Early in May 1778 scouting parties of the enemy began to arrive from up country, but none of the settlers were molested, nor outrages committed. The scouts seemed to avoid rather than seek a collision with the inhabitants, until one day, when being in the vicinity of Wyalusing, a party of these scouts saw a Wyoming man named Crooks standing at the door of a house belonging to a Tory named Secord, who had been driven off by the Yankees, when one of the number aimed his piece at Crooks and deliberately shot him dead where he stood. This was the

first life taken in the campaign of 1778, and it was thought that it was the tory refugee who did the shooting.

The people of the country became at once alarmed, as a concentration of the enemy was known to be going on at New-Town, (Elmira) and at Tioga, and that he was preparing to descend the river by means of boats and canoes which were then in course of preparation. Every man in the settlement capable of bearing arms, was speedily enrolled in the militia, and trained to resist the invasion. The women and children were gathered into the Forts. The militia were put in the best possible condition for immediate action. Of the rude old fashioned flint lock small arms there was possibly no lack, but of amunition, there was a lamentable deficiency. The only cannon in the Valley, and old cast-iron four-pounder, was in Wilkesbarre Fort, but having no balls, it could be used only as an alarm gun. It was evident that the attack was soon to be made, but the precise time could not be calculated. Hoping for the best, but fearing the result, the settlers waited in daily expectation their advent all through the month of June. Such labor as was done at all, was performed by armed men, their firelocks standing conveniently by, ready to be grasped at any moment. Such was the condition of affairs in the Valley at the end of June.

## THE ENEMY APPROACHES.

The time at last arrived for decisive action. The enemy numbering four hundred British Provincials, consisting of Col. John Butler's Rangers and a detachment of Sir John Johnson's Royal Greens ; * these being mostly made up of loyalists or Tories from New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, accompanied by about six hundred

* NOTE. This Command is so designated by Charles Miner and other historians of Wyoming. But in Sir Johnson's Orderly Book, kept during his campaign against Fort Stanwix in 1777, and captured with all his Camp equipage by Col. Marinus Willett, in his memorable sortie from the Fort, Sir John Johnson's Regiment is never in a single instance called the "Royal Greens", but always the "King's Royal Regiment of New York."

Indians from the Oneida, Seneca and other Tribes about Niagara, having descended the Susquehanna in boats landed a short distance below the mouth of Bowman's Creek, a large mountain stream that empties in on the west side of the river not far below Tunkhannock, and about twenty miles distant in a direct line from Wyoming. After securing their boats, Butler marched his army across the upland by the short route, and arrived on the mountain adjoining the Valley during the night, or early on the morning of the last day of June On the same morning eight persons who had gathered at Fort Jenkins opposite Pittston, not being aware of the proximity of the enemy, took their arms as usual and proceeded up the river about three miles to their labor in the fields. During the afternoon they were set upon by a band of Indians of Butler's force, and four of them were most brutally murdered; three were carried into captivity; only one, John Harding, made his escape to tell the story of that cowardly attack, and give warning to the people in the Valley. This was the opening struggle of that bloody campaign.

GATHERING AT FORTY FORT.

This sudden and fatal blow being reported in the Valley by the survivor of the party, the people were apprised of their impending danger, and the marshaling of such force as could be relied upon for defence was hurriedly begun — Forty Fort being designated as the rendesvous for the main body of the citizen soldiery. There was no actual military organization here, but by a sort of tacit consent, Col. Zebulon Butler of the Continental army, who happened to be at home on leave, assumed command of this determined body of undiciplined farmers who were ready and willing to risk their lives in defence of their families and homes.

On the 1st day of July, Col. John Butler entered the Valley by marching his army down along the creek that enters back of the village of Wyoming, and took position at the Fort, or stockade of one Wintermute, who proved

to be in sympathy with the British. The camp of the invaders was about midway between the point where they entered the Valley and Fort Jenkins, further up the river. The same evening a detachment was sent up to capture the latter; the little garrison fought bravely, and after three of the defenders had been slain, the remaining four surrendered and were brought into camp in triumph as prisoners of war.

On the morning of the 2d, a Mr. Ingersoll, who had been captured at Fort Wintermute, together with one white man of Col. John Butler's command and one Indian, were sent under a flag of truce to Col. Zebulon Butler at Forty Fort, demanding a surrender of the Fort with the forces there assembled, or under his command, implying a complete surrender of the Valley. To this demand Col. Butler declined to accede.

### THE DIE IS CAST.

On the following morning, the fatal 3d, after the flag, had been dismissed, Col. Butler called a council of his principal officers, and opinions were freely expressed. Col. Butler, Col. Denison, Lieut. Col. Dorrance, and a few more advised non-action, and said that it would be more prudent to await developements and reinforcements that were then known to be on the way. As opposed to this policy of inactivity, it was urged by Capt. Lazarus Stewart and those in favor of aggressive action, that the enemy would ravage the Valley and murder the inhabitants in detail as he had already begun in the case of the Hardings and at Fort Jenkins. That the army could not be kept together, and that unless led to the attack, each man would hasten to the protection of his own family, and all would be lost. To attack and defeat the enemy was the only hope of the people of these settlements. This desperate resolve finally carried by a large majority, and the minority, with reluctance and fearful forebodings yielded their assent, and shortly after noon, the column, consisting of near four hundred, many of whom were old men

boys, unfit for military duty, marched out of the Fort tack the enemy in the field. The little army was ized into six nominal companies, with many indents or volunteers not attached to any company, who solved to put their services where they could be effective in the fight.

distance from the place where the enemy lay encamped, was about four miles, the intervening country being a level plain not thickly wooded. Every movement of the Americans was reported at head-quarters by Butler's alert scouts, who could be seen stealthily hurrying back and forth in hot haste among the bushes as our little band of patriots approached.

### THE INVADERS PREPARED FOR BATTLE.

As it became evident to the British commander that the Americans intended to bring on a general engagement, he speedily formed his men in line of battle; his left on the edge of a steep bank near the river at Fort Wintermute, which for some reason had been fired; the line extended across the more elevated ground; the right centre being occupied by Johnson's Royal Greens; a body of Indian sharp shooters occupied the centre of the line; the main body of the Indians was placed on the extreme right, extending into an alder swamp, through which the Lackawanna and Bloomsburg railroad now passes. Col. John Butler was in command of the left wing in person. It has been asserted by some historians that the Indians were commanded by Thayendenega, a distinguished Mohawk Chief, known to the white people as Capt. Brandt. It is also denied on equally good authority that Brandt was with the Wyoming expedition at all. Certain it is that it was the universal opinion of the people of the Valley at that time, and long after the battle, that he was the moving spirit among the Indians.

### FACE TO FACE WITH THRICE THEIR NUMBER.

Such was the enemy's order of battle, at 2 P. M. as the Americans approached his line. Col. Zebulon Butler had

sent Captains Ransom and Durkee forward to fix upon a place for forming his line of attack. These experienced officers approached as near the enemy's line as they deemed prudent, and upon the coming up of the column, the companies were directed to deploy right and left, forming in line of battle as they took the places assigned them; the right resting on the steep bank fronting the enemy's left, and extending like his, across the gravelly flat about a quarter to half a mile to the morass or swamp bounding it in that direction. The plain intervening between the two armies, thus standing face to face in hostile atitude, was thinly covered with scruboak underbrush and yellow and pitch pine trees of stunted growth. Captain Bidlack, occupied the extreme right; Captain Hewitt, the right centre; on the extreme left was Captain Whittlesy with the Plymouth Company. Capt. Stewart occupied the left centre, while Captains Geer and Buck of Wilkesbarre and Kingston held the centre of the line. Col. Butler, supported by Maj. John Garrett, commanded the right wing; Col. Nathan Denison, supported by Lieut. Col. George Dorrance, was on the left; Captains Durkee and Ransom, as military advisers, were stationed, the first on the right as aid to Capt. Bidlack, the latter on the left to assist Capt. Whittlesey; Anderson Dana was acting Adjutant. No artillery was used on either side, and but few of the officers were mounted. As Col. Butler rode along to hastily inspect the line, he addressed to each Company a few words of encouragement, exhorting the men to stand firm, as all depended upon resisting the first shock. "Stand firm" said he, "and the Indians will soon give way."

### THE BATTLE OPENS.

It was about 4 o'clock when the order to advance to the attack was given. The men having been told off into odds and evens, were ordered to advance alternately by numbers, five steps, then halt and deliver fire; while the then rear file would again advance and fire in their turn.

For a while the firing was rapid and steady along the American line, and was returned in an equally spirited manner. The enemy's left being hard pressed by Capt. Hewitt's Provincials on our right, began to recoil, and a shout ran along the line that the British were being driven back. At this critical moment, the greatly superior number of the enemy enabled the Indians on our right to out flank the Americans at that end of the line, and while Capt. Whittlesey was hotly engaged in front, a large number of the Indians had penetrated the swamp and were emerging from the thicket some distance in his rear. Seeing this movement Col. Denison ordered Whittlesey's Command to change front and form a line facing the enemy in that direction.

A FATAL MISTAKE.

The battle had now raged for over half an hour and was becoming hot and furious. The savages rushed in with fearful yells; still our men stood firm, returning shot for shot without thought of giving way before the furious onslaught, but when the order was given by Capt. Whittlesey for his Command to wheel backward from the left with a view of forming a right angle with the original line, the order was understood by the men to be to retreat, and they at once became demoralized and broke and fled in the wildest confusion. It was in vain that Col. Butler strove to rally his men by recklessly exposing his own life as he passed along the line between the two fires; but it was too late; a panic had seized upon these raw militia which the assuring words of no General could allay, and they broke and fled as the yelling savages doubled up our line by their onward rush from the left flank. The right stood its ground with desperate heroism. One of Capt. Hewitt's officers said to him, "we are beaten, the Indians have gained our rear, shall we retreat?" "No! I'll be d--d if I do while a man stands by me" was the heroic reply, and he died at his post pierced by a shot from the British Rangers. Thus ended the battle of Wyoming but not

### THE MASSACRE.

A portion of the Indians who had thus flanked the American left, did not stop to give the finishing blow to this doomed band of patriots, but pushed forward to the rear of the defeated army, to cut off its retreat to Forty Fort, thus completely hemming in those who sought to save themselves by flight, the river forming one side of the enclosure. Being thus surrounded on all sides, consternation reigning supreme, with men running hither and thither impelled by a sudden fear, the slaughter went on while a man was left within the fatal enclosure. Some were taken prisoners by the Greens and Rangers of Co. John Butler, but these were subsequently massacred in the most cruel and revolting manner by the Indians on the night of that dreadful day. Seventeen were slaughtered by that semi-savage Hecate, Queen Esther, on a flat rock a short distance above the battle ground. Groups of other dead bodies were found in the vicinity, showing that they had been murdered in the most shocking manner after they had been taken prisoners. Of all the prisoners taken on the field, it is not known that half a dozen escaped being barbarously murdered by the infuriated Indians; a few evaded the vigilance of their captors, and succeeded in making their escape while being carried into captivity. Some swam the river and fled to Wilkesbarre, while a few passed the cordon of Indians in the rear of the battle ground and reached Forty Fort unhurt, though hard pressed by the pursuing savages to its very gates.

### THE DEATH ROLL.

Not less than two hundred of the Connecticut people were slain on that day and night of terror, including Lieut. Col. Dorrance, killed in the retreat, Major Garrett, Adjutant Dana, the six acting Captains, three volunteer Captains, without commands; also ten Lieutenants and five non commissioned officers. As some palliation for this fearful death roll, be it said with honest sincerity, that it is not known that any women or children were mur-

dered during the bloody contest of that day, or during the stay of the enemy in the Valley, with the approbation or consent of the British Commander, though a few murders may have been committed afterwards in direct violation of his positive orders, by the uncontrolable tories and savages, acting as allies.

As Col. Zebulon Butler was a Commissioned officer in the Continental army, and not willing to run the risk of being taken prisoner and carried into captivity, if no worse fate should be in store for him, it was judged prudent for him to retire from the Valley before a surrender of the forces should take place; therefore the task of arranging for the surrender devolved upon Col. Denison, the second in command.

### THE SURRENDER.

The next day after the battle, the morning of the 4th, Col, John Butler sent a messenger to Forty Fort, requesting Col. Denison to come up to his head quarters near Fort Wintermute, and agree upon terms of capitulation. Taking with him two civilians, Obadiah Gore and Dr. Gustin, Col. Denison repaired to the quarters of his victorious enemy, where, after a full and free discussion, terms were agreed upon verbally. The conditions exacted by the victorious Butler, taking all things into consideration, were exceedingly liberal, and show that notwithstanding the atrocities that had been committed by his savage allies, that he himself was actuated by humane and generous impulses in his hour of triumph.

All the parties met at 2 o'clock of the same day at Forty Fort, there being present also Zerah Beach, a prominent citizen, and Rev. Jacob Johnson, the Pastor of the Congregational Church at Wilkesbarre. Mr. Johnson was invited to act as Secretary, and the full text of the articles of capitulation were reduced to writing by him, and after being signed by the high contracting parties, and duly witnessed, the surrender of the Fort, together with all the surrounding country to his Majesty's forces,

took place at 4 o'clock P. M., July 4th 1778—a sorry ending for the second anniversary of American Independence, here in Wyoming. The articles of capitulation as finally agreed upon and signed by Col. Denison on the part of the settler's forces and Col. John Butler, commanding the British army of invasion, were substantially as follows :

1st. It was mutually agreed that the inhabitants of the settlement should lay down their arms, the Fort be demolished, and the Continental stores be delivered up. The inabitants of the settlements were to be permitted to occupy their farms peaceably and without molestation of their persons.

2d. The loyalists were to be allowed to remain in undisturbed possession of their farms, and to trade without interruption.

3d. Col. Denison and the inhabitants stipulated not again to take up arms during the war.

4th. Col. John Butler agreed to use his utmost influence to cause the private property of the inhabitants to be respected.

Notwithstanding this solemn guarantee on the part of the British Commander, the Indians and irregulars of the invading forces, scattered themselves through the Valley in marauding squads, and burned nearly every hut not belonging to a tory loyalist. They "confiscated" whatever of the slender posessions of the rebelious Yankees they could find, which had been left behind in their hurried flight to escape the vengeance of those ruthless invaders of their country and their homes. The sufferings of the fugitives, of men, women and children, of all ages and conditions, during their flight across the mountains towards the Delaware, and through the "shades of death", as the dense hemlock swamps they passed were afterwards called, may never be known, but certain it is, that even at this remote day, it is fearful to contemplate the trials and hardships they must have endured. The invaders did not long tarry, as the object of the raid had been fully accomplished in the destruction of the settlement so obnoxious to the tory element, and the entire army finally left the Valley by the Indian path up the Lackawanna three or four days after the battle.

### THE FIELD OF SLAUGHTER.

After the escape of the surviving settlers, and the withdrawal of the enemy, the country was entirely deserted by both friend and foe for a time, and the dead bodies of the victims of the terrible slaughter near Wintermute's Fort, lay unburied on the battle field, for devouring beasts and carrion birds of prey to gorge upon long after the conflict: and it was not until some time in the month of October following, that the remains, now reduced to unrecognizable foul and ghastly skeletons, were gathered up and deposited in one common grave near the spot where they had fallen on that hot July afternoon; and where they remained in unforgotten repose until about the year 1831, when the place of burial, in a cultivated field, was discovered by persons employed to search for them; they were then disinterred and removed to their present resting place beneath the monument since erected to commemorate the events of the battle and of the actors therein engaged, to the end, that it may remind future generations, of the services and sacrifices of their patriotic ancestors, and mark the spot where they, animated by desperate valor, met their fate, or yielded only before vastly superior numbers, at the "Battle and Massacre of Wyoming", where wide-spread havoc and desolation marked the bloody footprints of the savage invaders of our Valley.

### REFLECTIONS.

The battle of Wyoming was not a great battle directly in its results, as affecting their struggle for Independence by the Colonies. It was not great in point of the number of men engaged in the conflict. But it was great in this: the exaggerated story of the atrocities committed by the British troops and their allies, (Heaven knows the truth was bad enough), fired the heart and nerved the arm of every American patriot in this broad land, wherever the story became known. It crossed the broad and tempestuous Atlantic and the sympathies of European civilization became enlisted on the side of the struggling Colo-

nists, and material help came from across the water. It has made the name of "Wyoming" almost as a new Thermopylæ —a synonym for desperate valor and a patriotic devotion to the cause of country with us as Spartan valor was regarded as the highest type among the Greeks of old. It was to preserve the memories, and commemorate the heroism and sacrifices of the actors in that historic event, that a few of their descendants, determined to make an effort to inaugurate the first "one hundredth year memorial service" on that once ensanguined field, at the foot of the monument of stone erected to mark the spot where the bones of the victims lie mouldering back to mother earth, on the 3d of July 1878.

The story of the inception of that patriotic undertaking, its progress, the hopes and fears of the men engaged in the task, and their struggles with material difficulties, together with its crowning triumph in an overwhelming demonstration on that centennial day, is fully and unreservedly set forth in the following pages compiled from original documents relating thereto.

# IN MEMORIAM.

## THE BEGINNING.

THE expediency of providing for a 100th year memorial observance of the Battle and Massacre of Wyoming, on the anniversary of the completion of the first century after that tragic event which brought destruction and death to so many of the early settlers in old Wyoming, had already engaged the attention of some of our citizens, descendants of a few of those who actively participated in the battle on that memorable day, as well as others more remotely, but not less keenly interested in the history of the Valley; but no steps had yet been taken in the active preparation, until some time in the month of June 1877, Messrs Steuben Jenkins and Calvin Parsons, happened to meet in the Court House grounds in Wilkesbarre, when the subject of taking immediate action in the matter of so preparing for a memorial service on its 100th anniversary, was incidentally mentioned and commented upon, and its propriety fully conceded by both. It was then and there decided to enter upon the preliminary work at once. Some days after this meeting, notes of invitation,

(the following being a copy of one of them), were prepared and sent to a few persons whom it was supposed might feel an active interest in the project:

"Wyoming, June 29th, 1877.

DEAR SIR:

I would like to meet you at the Court House, in Wilkesbarre, on Tuesday, July 3d 1877, at 10:30 A. M., to consult upon the propriety of a Centennial Celebration of the Battle of Wyoming,

Yours truly &c,

STEUBEN JENKINS.

WESLEY JOHNSON,
Wilkesbarre, Pa."

This was the initial move in the work of actively preparing a memorial service one hundred years after that disastrous event. All the proceedings following in furtherance of the undertaking, are faithfully embodied in the following work, taken from the minutes of the Association, and from articles for publication furnished to the Daily papers by the Secretary at the close of each meeting. Nothing of importance relating to the subject has been omitted; the object being to furnish a full record and transcript of all such matters and things as came up for consideration before the Association at any and all of its meetings.

## AND WHAT CAME OF IT.

What action was taken at this first informal meeting, in pursuance of the foregoing invitation, is given in the report as follows, under date of July 4th 1877.

"Yesterday was the 99th anniversary of the Battle and Massacre of Wyoming, where perhaps three hundred, out of about four hundred of the Connecticut settlers fell, on that bloody field in the upper portion of the Valley. It was therefore a fitting occasion for the descendants of these brave men, to meet and consult together on the subject of preparing, thus early, to honor the first hundredth anniversary of the tragic event, by arranging a suitable memorial service to be observed on that day. In pursuance of this desire on the part of many of our citizens, there was an informal meeting held at the Arbitra-

tion Room in the Court House, at half past 10 o'clock A. M., for taking into consideration the propriety of thus observing the Centennial of the Battle at its next anniversary, one year hence. Of citizens, who responded to the invitations sent out a few days ago, and were present on this occasion, there were: Hon. Steuben Jenkins of Wyoming; Hon. Edmund L. Dana of Wilkesbarre; Gen. Henry M. Hoyt of Wilkesbarre; Hon. Lazarus D. Shoemaker of Wilkesbarre; Col. Charles Dorrance of Kingston; Dr. Horace Hollister of Providence Pa.; Priestley R. Johnson of Wilkesbarre; Calvin Parsons Esq. of Parsons Borough, and Wesley Johnson of Wilkesbarre.

On motion, Gen. Dana was called to the chair, and Wesley Johnson appointed Secretary.

Mr. Jenkins and Dr. Hollister, each addressed the meeting at some length, urging immediate action in preparing to make the 100th anniversary of the Battle, one to be long remembered in Wyoming, by renewing in the minds of the rising generation a just appreciation of the perils and hardships to which their ancestors were subjected, and teaching them to emulate the example of those brave and heroic men, who laid down their lives in defence of this fair land, whose fertile fields and stores of mineral wealth the owners of to day enjoy in peace. After which Mr. Jenkins offered the following Resolution, which was unanimously adopted.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of Seventeen, of which the chairman of this meeting shall be one, be appointed, whose duty it shall be to report at a subsequent meeting, a plan for a permanent organization, and for the proper commemoration of the Battle of Wyoming on the 3d of July 1878.

Whereupon the following named persons, all lineal descendants of participants in the Battle, and many of them of victims in that cruel massacre, were appointed by the meeting, viz:

HON. STEUBEN JENKINS, of Wyoming.
GEN. EDMUND L. DANA, of Wilkesbarre.
DR. HORACE HOLLISTER, of Providence.
STEWART PEARCE ESQ., of Wilkesbarre.
COL. CHARLES DORRANCE, of Kingston.
HON. LAZARUS D. SHOEMAKER, of Wilkesbarre.
IRA DAVENPORT ESQ., of Plymouth.
JESSE HARDING ESQ., of Eaton.
COL. FRANK STEWART, of Berwick.
CAPT. CALVIN PARSONS, of Parsons.
DR. ANDREW BEDFORD, of Abington.
EDWARD WELLS ESQ., of Wyalusing.
STEUBEN BUTLER ESQ., of Wilkesbarre.
WM. ROSS MAFFETT, " "
WESLEY JOHNSON, " "
HON. PETER M. OSTERHOUT, of Tunkhannock.
ELISHA BLACKMAN ESQ., of Pittston.

After the announcement of the committee the meeting adjourned to meet at the same place on the 25th inst, at half past ten o'clock A. M.

It was evident from the spirit manifested by those present, that a memorial service worthy of that great event will be inaugurated on its recurring anniversary one year hence. It is not fit that it should be one of rejoicing, but rather a day of sorrow, as manifested in most of its memorial services. It is probable that these services will include an historical review of every known event connected with the battle, an eulogy to the dead patriots, and perhaps there will be enacted as near as can be by the citizen soldiery, some of the scenes, and most striking incidents of that bloody day on the field of Battle and the retreat to old Forty Fort, when all save honor was lost.

From the material of which the Committee of seventeen is composed, the number of the Committee corresponding with the seventeen townships of old Wyoming,) we look for active and persistent works by the members until all the details shall be arranged, to give us on this,

our Centennial Anniversary, a memorial pageant that shall reflect the highest credit upon these descendants of worthy sires.

The Chairman is the Hon. Steuben Jenkins, who seems to be fully aroused to the work ; it is enough to say of him, that he is a grandson of Col. John Jenkins of Colonial times. Mr. Jenkins is to some extent an antiquarian, whose delight is in the past, and is perhaps the best authority on the local history of our Valley now living.

Judge Dana is a gandson of the brave Anderson Dana, who had hastened back from Hartford Connecticut, where he was serving as a member of the Assembly, when he learned of the threatened attack upon Wyoming, and volunteered as a private in the ranks, where foremost fighting he fell.

Mr. Calvin Parsons derives his lineage from the same good stock on the maternal side.

Dr. Hollister who is widely known as a local historian, and a keen observer of passing events, is of that family of Hollisters who lost their lives at "The First Massacre of Wyoming" by the Indians in 1763.

Stewart Pearce, the author of the "Annals of Luzerne," comes of the house of Stewart, one of whom, the intrepid Cap't. Lazarus Stewart fell on that fatal field at the head of his brave Hanoverian Company.

Col. Charles Dorrance, a large hearted gentleman farmer, who inherits his broad acres on the Kingston flats from his pioneer ancestors, is a grandson of the Lieu't. Col. George Dorrance, who, while bravely fighting, fell under the murderous fire of the Indians on the left wing of the little army in the battle.

Hon. L D Shoemaker has the blood of Col. Denison, and of Cap't. Elijah Shoemaker, who perished in the massacre after the battle, having been treacherously decoyed within range of the rifle of a noted tory whom he had often befriended previous to the opening of the war.

The Davenports of Plymouth were among the early

settlers here and of course shared in all the dangers and hardships of pioneer life.

Jesse Harding of Eaton is of that family of Hardings who were the first victims of British and Indian barbarity in the Wyoming Campaign; of the entire family of father and four sons, only one, the grandfather of Jesse, escaping to tell the tale in the valley, as he fled from the bloodstained corn field near the present family residence, two days before the battle. Col. Butler's last words before engaging the enemy were: "Men, yonder is the enemy; the fate of the Hardings tells us what we are to expect in the event of defeat."

Col. Frank Stewart is also of the family of Cap't. Lazarus Stewart, one of the "Paxton Boys," the same as Mr. Pearce.

Edward Wells is a grandson of Matthias Hollenback on his mother's side of the house, and the name of Hollenback is so extensively woven into the early history of the valley, as well as of business enterprises of a later day, and down to the present, that a mere reference to the fact of his ancestry, will be sufficient without further mention.

The venerable Steuben Butler is a son of Col. Zebulon Butler, the chief in command at the Battle, and with the exception of Mrs. Sally Abbott, a daughter of Col. Nathan Denison, second on that day, is perhaps the only living representative next in degree to the old patriots of the 3d of July Battle.

Dr. Andrew Bedford represents an honored line, and his mother, Miss Sutton, then a girl ten years old, had with others of the surrounding country been gathered into the Fort, and well remembered many of the trying scenes of those dark days to the close of her life.

Wm. Ross Maffett is nearest of kin to the brave Ross family whose history was written in blood on that day, being a grandson of Gen. Wm. Ross, an opulent land holder of Wilkesbarre, who at a later day was prominently

connected with some stirring events in the strife between Pennsylvania and Connecticut.

Wesley Johnson is a grandson of the Pioneer Preacher, Jacob Johnson, who was present on the day of the Battle, but did not participate in the bloody work, having been detailed to remain at the Fort to comfort and advise the women and children gathered there for protection, but he had the honor of being selected to act as Secretary to the high contracting parties, for the purpose of reducing to writing the terms of capitulation, that had been verbally agreed upon between the victorious Butler and the vanquished Col. Denison who was left in command of the settlers after the retirement of Col. Butler, and whose name also appears as one of the attesting witnesses to the articles of capitulation.

Judge Osterhout represents old Putnam and comes of stalwart stock, and the Blackmans were well known in those dark days of pioneer trials and sufferings in the field of fame, as well as in more peaceful pursuits. The public will watch with no little degree of interest the outcome of the work of this committee of seventeen."

Such was the very flattering report that went forth on the wings of the newspaper press of this first effort to organize for the coming event, now acknowledged on every hand, destined to be one of great importance to the valley in familiarizing the country with its history, and incidentally directing attention to the vast wealth, and importance of the almost inexhaustible stores of anthracite coal hid away in the bowels of the earth beneath our fertile soil.

### GETTING DOWN TO WORK.

The work of organization being now well under way, and the committee already engaged in arranging a definite and practical plan for future operations, the press again on the 18th of July, called attention to the subject as follows :

"A meeting is called for to-day, of the committee appointed at the meeting of the 3d inst., the business of which will be to report a plan for a permanent organization, to make preparations for the proper celebration of the Wyoming Centennial next 3d of July. It is probable that some plan will be adopted at this meeting, or at least the plans submitted will be reported to the citizens' meeting to assemble, as per adjournment, on the 25th inst. Suggestions from any citizen will be in order, if handed in to any one of the committee of seventeen. It is not proposed or desired to make this thing exclusive. The movement was initiated, as was proper, by the descendants of the old settlers, and the committee was made to consist of seventeen members to correspond with the number of Connecticut townships in the old land company's grant, and each committeeman is supposed to represent a township and the people thereof. But history is the property of the nation, and the object is to make this a national celebration, as the event which it is to commemorate was of national importance, and was one of the scenes in the great drama of the Revolution which gave independence to the struggling colonies of North America; and established a firm confederation of sovereign states for all time, as we hope and trust. It was not alone in our own land that humanity stood aghast at the recital of the savage butchery of unresisting citizens that followed on the evening and night of that fearful day. The story of the atrocities of the Wyoming Massacre was heard round the civilized world, and one of the finest poems in the English language, by one of England's great poets, received its inspiration from this notable event, and though Campbell's description of scenery may be a little too warm for Pennsylvania's mountain valley, yet the poem is exquisite; and although it is denied that

> "The monster Brandt
> With all his howling, desolating band,
> Fought on that fatal day,"

yet the fact is patent to all students of our local history that it was

"A day of blood upon the plain,"

where youth, manhood, and feeble old age alike poured out their blood as water upon the parched earth; and when we, the descendants and successors of those brave men, forget their sacrifices "may our right hands forget their cunning, and our tongues cleave to the roofs of our mouths," when strangers ask us to recount the thrilling story of the Massacre, of which they may have been but imperfectly informed."

## THE PLAN OUTLINED.

The committee appointed at the primary meeting on the 3d to prepare and report a plan for a permanent organization met in the Arbitration room, in the Court House, at half past ten A. M., July 18th. There were present Hon. Steuben Jenkins, Chairman; Wesley Johnson, Secretary, and Gen. Edmund L. Dana, Col. Charles Dorrance, Dr. H. Hollister, Dr. A. Bedford, Hon. L. D. Shoemaker, and Elisha Blackman of the committee, and also James Augustus Gordon of Plymouth, and H. B. Plumb of Hanover. Letters were read from Mr. Ira Davenport requesting to have Frank Turner substituted in his place; also from Mr. Jesse Harding, of Eaton, embodying his views on the subject, and manifesting a lively interest in the same, but pleading his advanced age for not attending in person. Judge P. M. Osterhout, of Tunkhannock, also sent in his regret at not being able to be present, as did some others.

After the question had been fully discussed, Mr. Jenkins submitted a paper embodying a plan of organization, which was unanimously adopted on motion of Gen. Dana, and recommended to the general meeting, to be held at the Court House, on the 25th inst., for favorable consideration. This plan provides generally for an association to be known as the Wyoming Centennial Association, with a President, seventeen Vice-Presidents, Secretary,

Treasurer, etc., and also for the appointment of committees to take charge in detail of the various branches of a memorial service, such as this is like to be, but as the work is still incomplete we forbear to make further mention of it at present.

The utmost harmony of sentiment prevailed, and there seems to be a fixed determination to make this the event of 1878. Pennsylvania has but three revolutionary battle fields—Brandywine, Germantown, and Wyoming—if we exclude Paoli, which was a mere butchery of defenseless men, and not a battle, and it seems therefore required of us as a plain duty which we owe the past, that we should not neglect to remember these few hallowed spots in our early struggle for independence.

On motion of Wesley Johnson, a committee of five was ordered to be appointed, of which the chair shall be one, to report at the meeting to be held on the 25th a list of suitable persons to serve as permanent officers of the association, and that the committee also report an estimate of the probable expenses to be incurred by the proposed memorial celebration.

After interchanging views on various names suggested, the committee adjourned to meet on the 25th, at nine A. M., at the same place, a few hours in advance of the general meeting in the Court House, to perfect its list of recommendations.

The meeting of next week will be entirely open to all citizens, and it is proposed to ask of the Commissioners the use of Court Room No. 1 to accommodate the large attendance expected, and all are invited to make suggestions touching the subject-matter under consideration.

### THE ASSOCIATION ORGANIZED.

The members of the committee authorized to report a plan for the permanent organization of an association, to prepare for and arrange the contemplated memorial centennial services, met early on the morning of July 25th, 1877, for the purpose of revising and amending the

plan as already agreed upon, if circumstances should render such action advisable A few names were added and substituted for others already on the list, but the work was pronounced good, and at half past ten o'clock A. M. the committee repaired to the office of the Bar Association, in the Court House building, where a large attendance of citizens had assembled to listen to the reading of the report of the committee. General E. L. Dana, Chairman *pro tem.*, called the meeting to order, and the minutes of the former meeting were read and approved; after which Hon. Steuben Jenkins, chairman of the committee of seventeen, reported the plan as adopted in committee; also the names of permanent officers of the association, and the names of suitable persons to serve on the standing committees provided for, which report, on motion of Hon. Hendrick B. Wright, was adopted, and the several persons named therein were duly elected as recommended.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE.

The committee recommend that the association shall be known as the Wyoming Centennial Association. Its officers shall be a President, seventeen Vice-Presidents, a Treasurer, a Secretary, and an Assistant Secretary.

There shall be the following standing committees of the association, viz.: On Invitations; on Addresses, Orations, Poems, &c.; on Historical Collections and Data; on Museum of Antiquities and Art; on Finance; on Buildings; on Dinner and Refreshments; on Procession; on Reception; on Music; on Preparation and Decoration of Grounds; on Arrangements with Railroads for Fares and Freights.

The President, Treasurer, and Secretary, with the chairmen of the standing committees shall be an Executive Committee.

There shall be a Superintendent, or Director General, to be appointed by the Executive Committee.

Each of said officers and committees shall have charge

of and perform the duties indicated by their name and character.

All money raised for the purposes of the association shall be under the order and direction of the Executive Committee, and shall be paid out on orders drawn by the President, and attested by the Secretary.

The object of the association shall be to commemorate in proper and patriotic manner the Centennial Anniversary of the Battle of Wyoming, on the 3d of July, 1878, and celebrate in like manner the national birthday on the 4th of July, 1878.

The exercises of the first day to be of a solemn and impressive character; those of the second day of a dignified, patriotic rejoicing; thus conforming them to the history and character of the respective days.

The Vice-Presidents shall consist of one person from each of the original seventeen townships, and it shall be the special duty of each of said Vice-Presidents to write, or procure to be written, a sketch of the history of his township, to be presented and read as a part of the commemorative exercises, and published with the proceedings of the association. It shall also be his duty to collect all historical papers and documents that can be had, for the purpose of publication, that every fact in the history of Wyoming may be collected and preserved.

That the Luzerne County Agricultural Society's fair grounds, being about midway between the battle field and the monument erected to the memory of the slain, and in the immediate vicinity of bloody Queen Esther's Rock, is selected as the most convenient and suitable ground on which the ceremonials shall take place.

The committee also report the following persons as officers for the permanent organization of the Wyoming Centennial Association:

*President*—Charles Dorrance.

*Treasurer*—Lazarus Denison Shoemaker.

*Secretary*—Wesley Johnson.

C. Derrance

*Assistant Secretary*—Edmund G. Butler.

*Vice-Presidents*—Edward Herrick, Athens; William Allen, Bedford; Maj. John Sturdevant, Braintrim; O. H. P. Kinney, Claverack; James Hadsall, Exeter; Stewart Pearce, Hanover; A. N. Harvey, Huntington; Steuben Jenkins, Kingston; Washington Lee, Newport; Gordon Pike, Northmoreland; Elisha Blackman, Pittston; James A. Gordon, Plymouth; Dr. B. H. Throop, Providence; Samuel Stark, Putnam; Colonel Frank Stewart, Salem; (Springfield and Ulster not filled); Steuben Butler and G. Murray Reynolds, Wilkes-Barre.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

*Invitations*—Hon. Garrick M. Harding, Stewart Pearce, Sharp D. Lewis, Dr. B. H. Throop, Joseph A. Scranton, Dr. W. H. Bradley, H. B. Beardslee, William Ransom, Charles Parrish, and James W. Kesler.

*Addresses, Orations, Poems, &c.*—Edmund L. Dana, C. I. A. Chapman, John E. Barrett, George M. Richart, P. M. Osterhout, William A. Campbell, O. H. Worden.

*Historical Collections, Data, &c.*—Dr. Horace Hollister, Rev. Geo. Landon, William P. Miner, Dr. Harry Hakes, S. S. Benedict, Rev. David Craft, Rev. S. S. Kennedy, Ralph D. Lacoe, and Hon. Sylvester Dana, Jr., Concord, New Hampshire.

*Museum of Antiquities, &c.*—Steuben Jenkins, Edward Welles, Harrison Wright, Daniel S. Bennet, Porter Marcy, W. H. H. Gore, and George W. Beach.

*Finance*—Payne Pettebone, Theodore Strong, Abram Nesbitt, Edward P. Kingsbury, George S. Bennett, Frank Turner, John W. Hollenback, George Sanderson.

*Buildings*—George Corey, William O'Malley, H. H. Harvey, J. D. Green, A. S. Davenport, David Perkins.

*Dinner, Refreshments, &c.*—J. Milton Courtright, Jos. E. Patterson, K. J. Ross, Col. Harry A. Laycock, Samuel Raub, Addison Church, William S. Shoemaker, Marx Long.

*Procession*—Gen. Henry M. Hoyt, Gen. E. S. Osborne, Col. C. K. Campbell, Col. T. D. Lewis, Col. E. W. Pierce, Col. Chas. H. Wilson, Maj. T. C. Harkness, Maj. Oliver A. Parsons.

*Reception*—Hon. Hendrick B. Wright, Col. Ira Tripp, Dr. Andrew Bedford, Gen. E. W. Sturdevant, Hon. John Handley, Lewis Pughe, Edwin Shortz, B. A. Bidlack, John A. Carey, Peter Franklin.

*Preparation of Grounds*—James P. Atherton, Bradley Williams, David Blanchard, Daniel Searle, James S. Slocum.

*Decoration*—R. J. Wisner, William H. Butler, James Searle, Benj. F. Dorrance, James Sutton, E. A. Hancock, Bruce Price, Benj. G. Cooper, Rev. Abel Barker, Bradley Downing.

*Music*—Calvin Parsons, E. C. Fuller, Aaron A. Chase, Henry Stark, Edward P. Darling, Robert J. James.

*Railroads, Fares, &c.*—Stanley Woodward, Victor E. Piolett, George L. Dickson, A. B. Dunning, Henry W. Palmer, Robert A. Packer, William R. Maffett, James Ruthven, William L. Conyngham.

*Publication*—C. E. Butler, E. D. Barthe, J. A. Clark, E. A. Niven, G. Murray Reynolds, Robert Baur.

On motion of Col. Wright, it was

*Resolved*, That the Committee on Invitations be directed to give the ladies of the Wyoming Monument Association an invitation to attend the memorial ceremonies, and that seats be assigned to them in an appropriate place.

On motion of Col. Frank Stewart, it was

*Resolved*, That the Committee on Historical Collections, &c., be requested to collect a list of the names and residences, as far as practicable, of the living descendants of those who fell in the massacre, for publication in the general proceedings.

On motion, adjourned to meet at the call of the President.

The persons to whom was delegated the task of preparing for the centennial exercises did not remain idle, though nothing was done by the association until the 11th of October following, when a meeting was held under the call of the President, as it was deemed important not only to forward the undertaking by preparing for work in committee, but also to awaken an interest in the public mind by keeping the matter well advertised in the newspapers, as it would be by the publication of the reports of the association's transactions, and to show that the project was not to be dropped out of sight. At this meeting, held in the City Council chamber, there were present Col. Charles Dorrance, President of the association; Wesley Johnson, Secretary; Lazarus D. Shoemaker, Treasurer; and the following named chairmen of committees: Invitations, Judge Harding; Orations, Judge Dana; Historical Collections, Dr. Hollister; Antiquities, Mr. Jenkins; Decorations, Mr. Wisner; Music, Mr. Parsons.

There were also present as members of committees Hon. Charles Abbott Miner and William Ross Maffett.

On motion of Mr. Jenkins, it was

*Resolved*, That the commemorative exercises on the 3d of July next be held on the battle ground at Wyoming, and that the exercises on the 4th be in the city of Wilkesbarre.

Hon. Garrick M. Harding, of the Committee on Invitations, offered the following:

*Resolved*, That this association be known by the name and style of "One Hundredth Anniversary of the Battle of Wyoming," and that this designation be adopted in all its correspondence and other transactions.

Judge Harding said: "The word 'centennial,' since the International Exhibition at Philadelphia last year, had become so common as to excite almost a feeling of ridicule in the mind of many people. We hear not only of centennial exhibitions, centennial churches, centennial

hotels, but so low in dignity has the word fallen that now we are reminded by certain enterprising dealers in small wares that they keep for sale 'centennial soaps' and 'mucilage.' I, therefore, move you, Mr. President of the association, that we endeavor to reform this thing, so far as in us lies, by eliminating this much abused exotic word from our records by substituting the plain English term 'one hundredth' in its stead. Our climate is too cold, and our hills too rugged, to afford a congenial home for the language of sunny Italy, when we have words derived from our sturdy English ancestors which express our meaning full as well, if not better, than these anglicised Latin ones."

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

A plan of the order of exercises was made up and discussed at length by the meeting, but not finally decided upon. This plan contemplates, in a general way, the assembling at the Wyoming Fair Grounds, at 9 o'clock, on the morning of July 3d of next year, to listen to an oration, an historical address, and reading of original poems suitable to the occasion; also an original hymn and music. It is proposed that there be erected on the fair grounds a log cabin in imitation of the homes of our fathers, from the balcony of which the proceedings will take place.

After suitable refreshments have been partaken of, the procession will form, with music and banners draped in mourning, and march to the monument. It is expected the several Posts of the Grand Army throughout this and other States will be well represented on the occasion.

At the monument an original hymn will be sung, and a solemn dirge by the band will complete the exercises of the commemorative service at the completion of the first hundred years after the battle, which covered the plain with corpses, and caused mourning and weeping in almost every household in the valley.

The proceedings will be carefully noted and published in book form, to be preserved for exhibition at the recurrence of the second century of this sorrowful day.

On motion of Judge Dana, it was

*Resolved*, That the Committee on Invitations be instructed to invite the President of the United States, and the Governors of New York and New Jersey and of the New England States, and such other Governors as they may deem advisable.

On motion, Judge Dana and Steuben Jenkins were appointed a committee to procure a heading and adopt a device to be used in all correspondence.

On motion, it was

*Resolved*, That the chairman of each sub-committee convene, without delay, his committee to receive suggestions and make arrangements for carrying out the work set apart for such committee, and that when this meeting adjourns it will adjourn to meet on Saturday, the 10th day of November next, at 10 o'clock A. M., at the same place, to receive reports of committees.

At the next meeting of the Executive Committee, held on the 11th of November, there were present Chas. Dorrance, President; L. D. Shoemaker, Treasurer; and Wesley Johnson, Secretary; of chairmen of committees, Judges Dana and Harding, Gen. Hoyt, Dr. Hollister, and Messrs. Parsons, Corey, and Wisner; also Dr. Hakes, D. S. Bennet, Edward S. Loop, Harrison Wright, and James Searle members of committees.

Judge Harding said, in reply to a question put by the chair, that no formal invitations had gone out, but the committee is in receipt of communications on the subject, showing that there is a deep interest being manifested in the success of the enterprise. It cannot fail to be a grand success.

Messrs. Dana and Jenkins, who were appointed at the last meeting a committee to procure a heading and adopt a device to be used in all the correspondence of this

association, reported that on the left hand upper corner of the sheet there be a picture of the Wyoming monument, surrounded by the Latin legend, "*Dulce et decorum est pro patria mori;*" on the right, in artistically displayed type, "One Hundredth Anniversary of the Battle of Wyoming, July 3, 1778—July 3, 1878."

On motion of Judge Harding, the report was received.

Dr. Hollister moved to amend the report by adding the words "and massacre" after the word "battle," as reported, and urging the adoption of this addition as more clearly defining the character of the event we are about to commemorate.

Dr. Hakes spoke in favor of the addition, as the event has always been known as the "Massacre of Wyoming." It is true that there was a battle, and after the battle, and after all resistance had ceased, there was a terrible massacre of the unresisting prisoners, of whom none escaped. All perished who fell into the hands of the blood thirsty savages on the evening of that fatal day. It was not only a nobly fought battle, but the night of that terrible day witnessed such horrid scenes of rapine and murder and outrage upon the conquered that the story of our wrong moved the sympathies of the whole civilized world in favor of the struggling colonists, and inspired the theme for one of the most beautiful poems in the English language, and served to adorn many an historic tale.

Upon the question being put, shall the amendment prevail? it was unanimously carried, and the style will now be, "One Hundredth Anniversary of the Battle and Massacre of Wyoming, July 3, 1778—July 3, 1878."

Gen. Hoyt, the chairman on procession, said that from all quarters he had the most cheering evidence that this thing is taking hold of the hearts of the people. The feeling is in favor of making it a splendid ovation. The military, as represented by the Grand Army of the Republic and veterans, will lend us material support in

helping to swell the grand pageant on that day. He proposed that there be added to the programme a representation of some of the tragic events, such as Queen Esther's horrid orgie and murder on the bloody rock, which was favorably received by the meeting.

Mr. George Corey, on Buildings, reports favorably, and his committee will not be behind in its part of the programme.

Judge Dana, on Orations and Poems, is in correspondence with Bayard Taylor, J. G. Whittier, and others on these subjects, and expects something by way of original poems that will live in the memory of the coming generations for the next hundred years.

Mr. Jenkins, on Antiquities, proposes to build a log cabin in the style of our grandfathers on the fair grounds, in which to display such relics as can be collected; also the grand collections of Indian relics owned by himself and Dr. Hollister, which together will constitute the finest collection in the United States. This will be a great attraction.

Mr. Parsons, on Music, reports favorably on his part of the work. All the bands within a reasonable distance will be invited to assist with appropriate selections.

On motion of Harrison Wright, it was

*Resolved*, That there be appointed a committee to arrange the exercises, and to conduct the proceedings on the ground.

Mr. Wright was appointed chairman of this committee, with Ernest V. Jackson, John B. Alexander, John Espy, and E. W. Weston as members.

On motion of Dr. Hollister, it was

*Resolved*, That a commemorative medal be prepared from a design to be submitted by a committee appointed for that purpose.

It is thought that enough of these may be sold to more than pay the expense of their preparation.

Messrs. Harrison Wright, E. L. Dana, and Steuben Jenkins were appointed on this committee.

On motion of Judge Dana, it was

*Resolved*, That the Secretary be directed to procure a sufficient number of printed slips containing the names of the members of the different committees, to furnish each chairman with a list of the members of his respective committee.

On motion, it was

*Resolved*, That when this meeting adjourns it will adjourn to meet at this same place, on Monday, the 24th day of December next.

### FAVORABLE PROGRESS REPORTED.

A large and enthusiastic meeting of the several committees and others of the association was held at the Arbitration room, in the Court House, on December 24, 1877, at 10 o'clock A. M. The President, Col. Dorrance, called the meeting to order.

A communication from the Scranton Veteran Soldiers' Association, proposing to assist in the memorial, was read by the Secretary; and on motion it was ordered to be referred to the Committee on Procession, with a recommendation to take favorable action in the matter.

The Chairman of the Committee on Addresses, Orations and Poems, reports the general plan of exercises to be observed on the 3d and 4th to the consideration of the meeting.

The main feature of this plan contemplates the assembling at the Wyoming Fair Grounds, at 9 o'clock A. M., on the 3d of July next. The reception address will be delivered by Col. Wright. The procession will then form and march to the battle ground, about half a mile distant, where an explanatory address will be made, pointing out the positions of the two contending forces, and a general plan of the battle, to enable persons the better to understand the historical address that will follow, upon a return to the fair grounds, where the princi-

pal exercises will take place. Messrs. Jenkins and C. I. A. Chapman will be assigned to make these explanatory addresses. After listening to the historical address, the procession will again form and in solemn order move to the monument, where, after saluting the dead heroes by dipping the draped banners and firing a funeral salute by the assembled veterans, a grand and solemn dirge will be performed by the united bands and singers, who are expected to be present in large numbers. The procession will then return to the fair grounds for refreshments, and the afternoon will be occupied in reading an original ode by Rev. Henry Coppee, D. D., of the Lehigh University, and one of a commemorative character by Jesse Harding, of Wyoming Co. The exercises will be properly interspersed with choice music and reverential prayer. One of the addresses will be by Rev. Wm. P. Abbott, of New York.

Dr. Hollister reported his committee as hard at work, and making good progress.

Dr. Hakes reported favorable action on the labors of his committee on historical data in fixing the location of old forts and roads, and that they are preparing a map to be exhibited showing the houses and cleared farms in the valley of a hundred years ago; also of the old Sullivan road, made in 1779.

Mr. Pettebone, Chairman of the Committee on Finance, explained his views of the ways and means of meeting the expenses of the undertaking, and asked for information as to how much the association intended to expend.

On motion of Dr. Hollister, it was

*Resolved*, That the chairmen of the several committees be instructed to report to the Chairman of the Finance Committee the amount of funds required for the use of each of such committees, and that the Chairman of the Finance Committee report at the next meeting the aggregate of such amounts, and that the expenditure be limited to the sums so reported; with a recommendation

of the Chairman of the Finance Committee as to the mode of raising the required funds.

On motion of Mr. Jenkins, it was ordered that the amount to be expended shall not exceed $3,000.

Mr. Atherton asked for instructions as to the amount to be expended on buildings. Directed to report estimates of his committee.

On motion of Dr. Hollister, it was

*Resolved*, That a committee of ladies be appointed to act conjointly with the committee already appointed on decorations.

Ordered that the chair appoint such additional members to the number of seventeen.

Mr. Parsons, on Music, reports that his committee has acted in the matter, and have chosen as Musical Director Prof. C. B. Derman; Prof. Coggswell has been chosen Director of Bands; and that they had requested the Committee on Hymns to invite composers of music to arrange the rhythm in the choral style.

Mr. Harrison Wright, Chairman of the Committee on Medals, submitted samples of two styles of commemorative medals in bronze or silver, and the cost of the same.

The committee was directed to act finally, and to procure the medals.

Mr. George M. Richart introduced Mr. John Billings, an Indian of the Onondaga Tribe, who came all the way from his home to attend this meeting. He said if it is deemed advisable, that not less than fifty Indians in their native costume would attend on the 3d of July, accompanied by their brass band, and thus add greatly to the scenic effect. He said his tribe numbered about four hundred. The name of their head chief is Thomas Webster, and his post-office address is Onondaga Castle, Onondaga county, New York.

On motion of Judge Osterhout, of Tunkhannock, the Committee on Procession was directed to confer with Chief Webster on the subject of sending a delegation.

This will be a pleasant feature in the commemorative service, where Indians in their war paint and feathers will commingle freely with the descendants of those pale faces whose fathers met in deadly conflict on the same ground one hundred years ago the ancestors of these now civilized red men, who appear here by special invitation to render the commemorative services more true to nature.

The Committee on Historical Data was directed to procure a map of the country as it was in 1778, and reimburse itself for the expense by a sale of the maps.

Adjourned to meet on the 31st day of January next, at the same place, at 10 o'clock A. M.

## MEETING AT FORTY FORT.

On January 1st 1878, a large concourse of citizens assembled on this historic spot, under the auspices of the Association, to witness the ceremonies of inaugurating the opening of the centenary year, and as preliminary to the more imposing ones expected on the 3d of July. The Wyoming Artillerists' battery of four guns, was posted, one piece at each of the two eastern angles, and two in the centre of the Old Fort.

President Dorrance called the people to assemble at the foot of the flag staff, and Dr. Hakes was invited to discourse upon the object and signification of the meeting. He said it was to awaken in the minds of the citizens a more active interest in the service to be held on the battle ground on the 3d of July, and as this was the spot on which that desperate resolve was made to meet the enemy in the field, and the place from which the little army of farmer soldiers marched on that fatal day, it is therefore right and proper that it should witness this first grand gathering of the people assembled to honor that event one hundred years after the conflict. It is desired to make the third of July 1878, one almost as worthy of a place in the history of the Valley, as is the 3d of the year 1778. We expect to witness an immense assembling of people from all parts of the country on that day,

to do honor to the memory of our dead who rest beneath yonder monumental shaft. We hope to make it such a day to be remembered, as Wyoming has not seen since the day of horror a hundred years ago. We expect to see a hundred thousand people gathered on the battle field on that morning, and from what I see and hear around me, I feel assured that we will not be disappointed. But in order to accomplish this, we must not relapse into apathy; we must arouse the patriotic sentiment in the hearts of our countrymen, and we must be prepared to show that we are going to place before the multitude such an exhibition as is not likely to occur again, at least not until the end of the next century, and that this is their last chance of witnessing so grand a reverential display. We must agitate the matter—agitate—agitate, keep the thing red hot, and all will be well.

Col. Samuel Bowman upon being called to the front, complimented the Artillerists, as being the first in the field to fire a shot for Old Wyoming, and said it warmed his heart to witness so overwhelming a demonstration at this opening of the centennial year.

Hubbard B Payne expressed his gratification at the lively interest this thing is awakening in the hearts of the entire people, and as the time for action has now arrived on the part of the military, he proposed that Capt. Parker direct the gunners to let their Artillery open their brazen mouths and speak in tones of thunder of the brave men, whose memory we have met here to honor.

At a given signal the four pieces belched forth a salute of a hundred guns to correspond with this, the centennial year after the battle. After which a bountiful repast, prepared by the ladies of Forty Fort, was partaken of by the multitude. The "Old Sullivan gun" broken off below the trunions was brought out and several shots were fired to show that she is not yet entirely silenced. This gun was brought over the mountains from Easton by Gen'l Sullivan in 1779, and left buried on the Denison farm near

Phototype. F. Gutekunst. Philada.

Wesley Johnson

by, as being too heavy to be conveyed in the small boats used in his expedition of that year against the Indians in the State of New York. It was in the year 1840, while firing a 4th of July salute at Wyoming, that this old relic had the misfortune to be blown assunder and more than half of the muzzle end was scattered among the crowd, but no injury was done, other than the cutting off a large limb from a neighboring apple tree.

President Dorrance being loudly called for, responded very handsomely, and said he felt proud to see that the people of Wyoming still cherished the memory of the men of the past '78, and he now had no fear that the approaching memorial of the present '78 will be an event not to be soon forgotten.

Secretary Johnson was also called out. He said he was not an orator to stir the hearts of the multitude with words of burning eloquence, as the gentlemen who had preceded him were able to do. Nor was he descended from a line of illustrious heroes, nor from a victim in that death struggle of a hundred years ago, as some of the gentlemen here could claim, if their modesty did not forbid such an assumption. But being called out as a descendant of the men of 1778, he would frankly confess that his ancestor was not a man of brawn and bone, whose good or bad fortune it was to do deeds of noble daring on the battle field, as he had been informed, but rather it was his office to follow in the path of slaughter, to soothe the dying, bless the dead, and comfort the widow and the fatherless through the consolation of religion, as given to us by the word of God, and point the way to that heaven of rest, where wars are no more, and all is rest and peace. So in this task which we have undertaken in preparing the commemorative service, he was placed in merely a clerical position, and it is left for others of more daring and energetic natures to act in marshaling the forces, and leading them on to victory or defeat. But it will not fail. This is a measure that was

not born to die; but as my friend Dr. Hakes has well said, we must keep the thing "red hot" before the people and the press, which I, in a humble way, represent, will not fail to do its share in awakening an interest therein.

CONSIDERING THE WAYS AND MEANS.

The Executive Committee met at the Arbitration room, at 10 o'clock A. M., on Saturday, the 31st of January. Besides the chairmen of the several committees, who constitute the Executive Committee, there were present a large number of citizens not of the association.

The chairman stated the object of the meeting to be to receive reports of committees as to the probable amount of funds required, and the ways and means for raising the same, after having disposed of less weighty matters.

Replies from Henry W. Longfellow, John G. Whittier, and Bayard Taylor were then read by General Dana, Chairman of Committee on Orations and Poems, in answer to propositions to them on the subject of preparing a suitable poem to be read on the occasion, in which they all declare their inability to comply with the requirements of the committee.

Mr. Taylor suggests that poems are not to be manufactured to order, like articles of merchandise, and although he had the honor of preparing the one for the opening of the Centennial Exhibition, at Philadelphia, he did not feel himself competent to undertake the preparation of one for this, as perhaps more might be expected of him than he was competent to perform. Great poems, even from great poets, of which he did not claim to be one, are not of every day occurrence. The divine inspiration of the poet must come unsought, for labored efforts are too methodical to touch a responsive chord in the hearts of an enthusiastic people.

Dr. Hollister, on Historical Collections, reports that his committee is progressing finely, and have already obtained plenty of material to make a valuable exhibit.

Dr. Hakes produced a sketch of a map of the country as it was a hundred years ago, showing the improvements, roads, fortifications, etc., which he explained in detail. This will be handsomely engraved, and ready for distribution before the 3d.

Rev. David Craft, of Wyalusing, gave some reminiscences of Colonel John Franklin, who acted a prominent part here, but died in Bradford county. His friends will prepare a sketch of his life, to be illustrated by a steel engraving, and this will also form a contribution to the historical collections.

Mr. Jenkins, on Museum of Antiquities, reports that his department will not require over $100 for the erection of a suitable building in which to display the magnificent collection of Indian relics, probably the most extensive in the United States.

Mr. Corey, on Buildings, estimates that $300 will be required in his department.

Gen. Hoyt, on Procession, reported that there will be required for livery hire for invited guests $100; for six bands of music, $600; for getting up a trades' procession, $500; for subsistence of 2,000 troops two days, $2,000; in all, $3,200. The Grand Army of the Republic will also have from 1,000 to 1,500 veterans on the ground.

The report was approved, and ordered to be carried into execution, so far as practicable.

Mr. Atherton, on Grounds, reported that the fair grounds, not under cultivation, could be had free of charge, so far as the uncultivated ground was concerned. If all is required, he estimates the paying for growing crops and preparing grounds at $150.

The report was approved, and the committee directed to act.

Mr. Wisner, on Decorations, reported his estimate of probable expense at $300.

Report approved, and committee directed to execute details; cost not to exceed $300.

It was said that the descendants of Anderson Dana, one of the victims of the massacre, desired to present in the name of these families to the association a memorial flag, already procured, and which it is intended to hoist on a suitable flag-staff at Old Forty Fort on the 22d of February next.

Dr. Hollister said the idea was a good one, and he hoped this action of the descendants of one of the early settlers will stimulate others to make contributions, and offered the followed resolution, which was adopted unanimously:

"That the flag presented by the ladies of the Parsons and Dana families to the association, to be used at the One Hundredth Anniversary of the Battle and Massacre be accepted, and used as indicated, and that the thanks of the association be tendered them for their thoughtful and patriotic gift."

It was found, upon footing up the items as submitted by the several sub-committees, that at least $4,500 would be required to defray the expense of the undertaking. These estimates were considered too low, and Dr. Hakes moved that the Finance Committee be requested to provide the sum of six thousand dollars to meet the necessary expenses.

Mr. Pettebone, Chairman of the Finance Committee, said we should not fix the sum too low, and that was the opinion of another member of the committee now here, Mr. John Welles Hollenback. We will probably find that we will not raise any more than is asked for, though the expense may be much greater. We had better not start out with the idea that any considerable help will come from outside of our own county. We must make up our minds to meet it ourselves, and provide for it.

The President said he was glad to hear such a sentiment from the Chairman of the Finance Committee, and as that was probably the unanimous sentiment of the

entire committee, he thought we need have no fear of the result.

Mr. Corey said he never knew a celebration that the cost did not exceed the estimates. Thinks $6,000 is not a high estimate. It will probably cost more than that.

Dr. Hakes said we don't want the idea to go abroad that this is to be a money making scheme for anybody. We are not going to employ hired mourners to attend our funeral. People must come at their own expense, or not at all. We think it due to the old patriots that we, their successors in this beautiful valley, should devote one day in a hundred years to honoring their valor and their memory. I am in favor of keeping down the expense to a reasonable amount.

The resolution, as finally passed, was, that the Finance Committee be requested to raise as much as $5,000, but they are not limited to that amount, and if more is required, let it be obtained if possible.

On motion of Mr. Corey, it was

*Resolved*, That the Committee on Invitations be instructed to invite Gen. Samuel Thomas as an honorary guest.

This is the "Captain Thomas" mentioned in the old poem on the shooting of James Bird, which runs:

"Amongst the troops that marched to Erie
Were the Kingston Volunteers,
Captain Thomas them commanded,
To protect our west frontiers."

Mr. Harrison Wright, on Medals, being unable to attend, sent in for inspection of the Executive Committee drawings of appropriate medals proposed to be struck with a cut of the same. It was suggested that, as the design represented the murder of women and children, it was therefore not true to nature. It was proposed that a change be made in accordance with the facts of history.

Adjourned to meet on Friday, the 1st day of March, at the same place, at 10 o'clock A M.

INTERESTING MEETING.

A meeting was held at the Arbitration room, at 10 o'clock A. M., on March 1st, Col. Dorrance, President, in the chair.

Judge Dana, on Orations and Poems, reported verbally that Dr. Henry Coppee, of the Lehigh University, has accepted an invitation to read a poem, and that it is already in course of preparation. Mrs. Harriet Gertrude Waters (Stella of Lackawanna) is preparing an ode for the occasion. Also, Miss Susan E. Dickinson has consented to favor us with one of her exquisite pieces. Some original hymns of merit have also been submitted to the committee, but as to these no public action can be taken at present.

Mr. Jenkins said the opinion has gone abroad that the collection of Indian relics in his possession is to be exhibited as a part of the demonstration. If it is so desired by the association, he is not averse to the measure, although the labor of removal and arrangement will devolve entirely on himself, as he would not dare to trust these relics in other hands. He has the largest collection of these relics of any in the United States, with the exception of that of his friend, Dr. Hollister, and the Doctor is such an eager antiquarian in this direction that he is fearful that the disproportion between the two collections might increase very much to the advantage of his rival archæologist.

Dr. Hollister signified his willingness to exhibit his collection side by side with that of Mr. Jenkins, and good humoredly retorted upon the latter by saying that it was a remarkable fact that the same idea had struck him, only in his mind the parties were reversed. However, as he would watch over his collection personally, he thought he might safely risk their exhibition, and that he would be able to keep even with the Wyoming Antiquary in the matter of "increase."

Mr. Pettebone reported that his Committee on Finance had taken no action as yet, but when the proper time arrives he had no fear that the means of paying expenses will be provided.

Col. Wright, Chairman of the Committee on Reception, was not present, but Col. Dorrance stated he had just returned from Washington, and in company with Col. Wright they had waited on President Hayes. The question of the massacre having been introduced, the President stated that he had often felt a desire to visit the far-famed Wyoming Valley, and expressed his determination to be present at the one hundred year anniversary exercises next July, if he can possibly spare the time without neglecting his public duties. If Congress shall not be in session at that time, he will surely attend.

Dr. Hakes suggested that Congress seemed to be getting on quite comfortably without the Executive sanction to some of its acts.

Mr. Atherton asked for information whether stands for the sale of refreshments are to be permitted on the grounds; and if so, whether the privilege of setting them up would be let to persons for hire.

This matter was considered as entirely within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Grounds. The sentiment of the General Committee seemed to be unanimous that the sale of intoxicating liquors should not be allowed.

Mr. Fuller read a letter from Prof. Derman, in which he says he will give his attention to the preparation of the music if his expenses of travel, etc., can be provided for. The committee was authorized to act as they may think proper.

On motion of Mr. Chapman, it was

*Resolved*, That the chairmen of the several sub-committees be requested and directed to report in writing at the next general meeting programmes of the proceedings intended to be carried out in their several departments

at the anniversary exercises, in order that the same may be finally acted upon.

On motion of Mr. Jenkins, it was

*Resolved*, That an invitation be extended to the Connecticut Historical Society, the Pennsylvania Historical Society, the Dauphin County Historical Society, the Bradford County Historical Society, and the Wyoming Historical Society, and other kindred Societies and associations, to join with us, and request that they be represented on that occasion in such manner as shall seem most appropriate to them.

Mr. Billings, the Onondaga Indian, who proposed to attend with a delegation from his tribe, has written to Mr. Jenkins to know what action will be taken with regard to their attendance at the commemorative exercises.

On motion of Dr. Hollister, it was

*Resolved*, That Chief Thomas Webster be written to, in order to learn what will be the probable expense, and how many of the braves can be induced to come here if it is decided to bring them at all.

Adjourned to meet at the same place on Thursday, the 28th inst., at 10 o'clock A. M

CONSIDERING REPORTS.

At the meeting of March 28th, ordered for the purpose of receiving and considering reports under Mr. Chapman's resolution, the President, Col. Dorrance, called the meeting to order.

The Chairman on Addresses, Gen. Dana, submitted the following report, which was directed to be received and filed:

"1st. That Steuben Jenkins, Esq., has been selected to deliver the historical address on the 3d of July; the Rev. William P. Abbott to deliver a national address on the 4th; that an invitation has been sent to Gen. Joseph R. Hawley, of Connecticut, to make a prefatory address on the 4th, but no answer has been received.

"2d. That in compliance with invitations extended to them therefor, Mrs. Harriet G. Watres, Miss Susan E. Dickinson, and Mr. Caleb E. Wright have each promised original odes, to be sung during the exercises, which have been placed in the hands of the Chairman of the Music Committee; that Mr. Jenkins has also written an ode, but has not yet furnished the committee (Mr. Parsons) with a copy; Mrs. Mary Richart has also commenced a poem to be read.

"3d. The committee further reports that Rev. Henry Coppee, LL. D., of the Lehigh University, agreeable to invitation, is preparing a descriptive poem, to be read on the 3d; that invitations were also sent to Mr. Taylor, Mr. Longfellow, and Mr. Whittier, but were severally declined; that the Hon. Sylvester Dana, of Concord, N. H., was invited to attend the celebration, and deliver a brief address on the 3d, and that he has consented to be present; that the Hon. Hendrick B. Wright has been invited, and has consented to deliver the reception address at the opening of the proceedings on the morning of the 3d.

"4th. The committee estimate the expenses connected with its department of the celebration at $200."

After the reading of the report, Gen. Hoyt stated that a letter had been received from Gen. Hawley, in which he was pleased to express a provisional acceptance of the invitation, and will be present unless detained abroad longer than he intends to remain.

Dr. Hollister, Chairman of Committee on Historical Data, submitted the following, which was received and filed:

"The duties of the Committee on Historical Documents do not relate to the exercises of the day, but to the gathering of papers, data, manuscript, and fragments of Wyoming history hitherto unpublished. The committee will discharge these functions, and on the 3d of July exhibit the result of their labor in the agricultural

buildings at Wyoming, considerable of which is now in possession of the committee. Such exhibit, in connection with two of the largest archæological collections in America, will be open to the public free of charge."

Mr. Jenkins submitted the following report, which was ordered to be received and filed:

"That under the instructions of the association we have made arrangements for having on exhibition in the main building on the grounds the very large and complete collections of Indian relics owned by Dr. Hollister and Steuben Jenkins respectively, together with such historical and other articles of interest connected with the early settlement of the valley as can be obtained for that purpose, many of which have been tendered to the committee for use on that occasion."

Mr. Palmer, on behalf of the Committee on Transportation, submitted the following, which was directed to be received and filed:

"That at the request of Stanley Woodward, Esq., Chairman, I wrote to the proper officers of the Lehigh Valley Railroad, Central Railroad of New Jersey, Delaware, Lackawanna, and Western Railroad, and Delaware and Hudson Canal Company, and have received answers from all. The Delaware and Hudson Canal Company propose to carry passengers to and from the celebration at half fare. All the other companies propose to charge two cents per mile for the distance traveled."

The Chairman on Finance, Mr. Pettebone, was unavoidably absent, but Col. Dorrance stated that the work of obtaining funds is begun, and subscriptions amounting to from $1,500 to $1,800 are already obtained.

Mr. Wisner, on Decorations, made the following report, which was accepted:

"Your Committee on Decorations report the following plan of action, subject to approval:

"Erect liberty pole, with flag at half-mast, on monument grounds. Erect four poles, one at each corner of

the monument, and trim the same with evergreens and black cambric. Motto, 'The illustrious dead whose memory we cherish.'

"Put up archway at entrance, festooned with evergreens and flowers. At main entrance to fair grounds large archways, with evergreens and small flags. Motto, 'Wyoming welcomes her guests.'

"Two large liberty poles, with flags. Speakers' stand trimmed with evergreens, festooned with flowers, and interspersed with flags. Motto, 'We greet our distinguished guests.'

"Main building—Flag on present staff, with small flags nailed to outside of building. Interior—Numerous small flags; festooning with evergreens and flowers as liberal as our means and the patronage of our citizens will warrant; also, display as many paintings and other emblems suitable to the occasion as we can procure.

"We also contemplate the erection of two triumphal arches across the main street leading to the grounds, if we can interest our Wyoming friends sufficiently to warrant the undertaking. The log cabin we thought should remain in its unadorned simplicity."

On motion of Mr. Wisner, Mr. J. H. Hawkins was substituted on his committee in place of Mr. Price, who has moved away.

Judge Harding reported verbally that he had "already extended invitations to several civic societies, but he had not invited any privileged guests, such as the President of the United States or Governors of States. We should first provide for their entertainment in a suitable manner as representative men of the nation. We have before us one prospective Governor (General Hoyt), and I have no doubt he will do his share as a citizen, and in a way that becomes a candidate for office. If I am instructed by the association to extend formal invitations, I will begin at once; but I want the financial question settled now. The fire department of the several cities will be an im-

portant feature, and I think the Wilkesbarre firemen will take care of this branch of our guests. I see the Chief Engineer of our excellent Fire Department (Mr. Woodward) is present, and I know he will never permit a brother fireman to go away hungry."

"Nor dry either," said Mr. Woodward.

Judge Harding accepted the amendment with thanks on behalf of the firemen.

Dr. H. Hollister said it would be a very penurious President or Governor of a State who would come here on this occasion, and then ask the citizens to defray his expenses. It would be proper for our citizens to invite these gentlemen to their homes, and he had no doubt Judge Harding would cheerfully entertain the President should he determine to attend.

Mr. Jenkins said there must be some expense attending this committee, and he thought a proper subject for a report of estimates from the chairman.

Calvin Parsons, on Music, reported as follows:

"Prof. Derman will be prepared with a choir of about two hundred and fifty voices to sing three hymns, and propose to close the exercises of the day with the long metre doxology, accompanied by the audience, bands, and cannon, to the tune of Old Hundred.

"Prof. Coggswell will be prepared to accompany the vocal music with a band of say sixty pieces, and will play as many other selections as may be desired. These selections, being of a classical order, will occupy about ten minutes in their performance."

Gen. Hoyt, on Procession, made the following report, which was ordered to be received and filed:

"The Committee on Procession desire to report finally that they have arranged the following programme for July 4th: Procession to take place in Wilkesbarre, about 10 o'clock A M., to consist of seven divisions. 1st. Military. 2d. Grand Army of the Republic Posts. 3d. Veteran Associations. 4th. Firemen 5th. Father

Matthew Societies. 6th. Other Civic Societies. 7th. Art and Mechanical Exhibits.

"They have designated Col. Stanley Woodward as Chief Marshal, with power to appoint all marshals of divisions, assistant marshals, and aids, and to arrange all details.

"Large delegations in all the divisions have already offered to join in the parade. Many associations will wait formal invitations. We suggest that Col. Woodward be authorized to use the name of the Committee on Invitations according to his discretion; and that the General Committee give a public invitation to all organized bodies of men in this region to join in the demonstration. We have already estimated the cost of this parade at $3,500, including rations for 2,000 troops, music $600, and mechanical parade $500. It is not understood that citizens in Wilkes-Barre will undertake to supply any rations or food on the day of the procession."

On motion of Mr. Jenkins, it was

*Resolved*, That a general invitation be extended to all civil and military organizations and associations within the State, and particularly within the bounds of Luzerne, Bradford, Susquehanna, and Wyoming counties, to be present at our exercises; and that the appropriate chairman of the respective committees be requested to extend a special invitation to each of said organizations and associations; and that the associations designing to attend be requested to give notice to the Committee on Invitations.

On motion of General Hoyt, it was

*Resolved*, That the Chairman of the General Committee on Invitations be instructed to procure 2,000 neatly engraved cards of invitation, to be distributed under the directions of the General Committee to citizens desiring to invite private guests to the occasion, and that a list of such invitations be handed to the Secretary.

Gen. Hoyt said that Mr. Charles Law, of Pittston, is

now having made an elegant silk flag of American manufacture, at a cost of not less than $200, to be presented to the fire company making the best display at the parade on the 4th.

Mr. Law, being called upon, explained his views, and proposed to procure also a silk button-hole badge suitable for the day, to be sold at a low rate.

Referred to the Committee on Medals and Badges, of which Harrison Wright is chairman.

On motion of Judge Dana, it was

*Resolved*, That the Committee on Publications, in conjunction with the Secretary of the association, be authorized to collect and arrange in book form the entire action of all meetings of this association from its inception, and that they be authorized to employ some suitable person to assist in doing the work.

Adjourned to meet on Thursday, the 25th of April, at the Arbitration room, at 10 o'clock A. M.

## PREPARING THE MEANS.

The Executive Committee met at the Arbitration room, in Wilkesbarre, on the morning of April 25, 1878.

Col. Dorrance, the President, called the meeting to order, and stated in his decisive but pleasant manner that he had heard from outside reports that the Finance Committee was not meeting with the success we had hoped in procuring funds to defray the expense attending our proposed memorial and celebration. It is too late now to stop and count the cost. We are fully committed to the work in hand, and the time has now arrived for the real friends of "Old Wyoming" to put their hands in their pockets and show by their acts that they are sincere in this matter, and that they are not parading their patriotism in the newspapers for effect, and to gain a little momentary notoriety. "We of the Executive Committee," said the President, "who have undertaken to honor our ancestors by giving to the public a memorial service worthy of the name, are abundantly able to

conduct it to a successful issue, and we are going to do it, though not one dollar shall be contributed outside of the association. I, for one, am not going to falter when it becomes a question of a few paltry dollars and cents, and I think I speak the sentiment of a majority of the committee. I am willing to go as far in this direction as any member of the committee, or any one else I want to hear no more of doubt or distrust of the success of the memorial for lack of means to pay the expenses."

These brave words from the President had a marked effect upon the members present, and aided very materially in settling the financial question, that up to this time did not seem so clear as it should have done.

Mr. Pettebone, Chairman of the Finance Committee, said: "This committee has not made very satisfactory progress, and it is true we have not met with the success we expected in some quarters. The committee, since its first organization, have made no strenuous efforts to secure subscriptions. He desired to report progress by laying before the General Committee the result of their labor as far as they have progressed. In accordance with the suggestions of the President, he proposed now to begin at home by giving the persons here who are interested in the matter in hand an opportunity to signify the extent of their willingness to contribute."

The book, upon being passed around, contained many proffered contributions, ranging from $25 to $300.

Col. Dorrance said: "This is a good beginning, and the thing must go through, and in the manner we have set out to do it. We are not to be discouraged when we find a few men differing with the rest of us. Unanimity is not to be expected in this world, and though we may regret that some men, abundantly able to contribute, may refuse to do so, yet thanks to the inexhaustible wealth of this valley of ours, which those men of old laid down their lives to defend, it must certainly be that there are enough of the same stock left to see to it that

no such word as failure shall be written in the record of this association."

Mr. Woodward said: "Almost all questions have two sides, and some even more. I am in favor of having a commemorative service at the graves of our wives' ancestors on the one hundredth anniversary of the day on which they patriotically offered up their lives in defense of this fair valley; and I am in favor of having a fine celebration on the 4th, after we have duly attended the obsequies of our honored dead, for you know it is to the solemn notes of the 'Dead March' that we go to the grave of a deceased comrade, but return playing 'The Girl I Left Behind Me;' and if the General Committee cannot furnish the requisite funds for the 4th of July celebration in this city, then the boys will do it, for we are going to have a big parade and a big show on that day. There will be some expense attending it, but the boys will see that these expenses are met. We are going to have a splendid pageant—tableaux of a hundred years' progress. It is inevitable, and let it come—but I don't think that remark is hardly original with me. First we will have the wild and savage Iroquois Indian in his tent of skins; his arms, the simple bow and arrows. Then the zealous Christian missionary, Zinzendorf, with snakes crawling out of his boots—but not from the effect of bad whiskey. Then the old settlers in home-spun attire and the old fire-lock of the past. Then the Pennamite and Yankee war—the traditionally lean Yankee and the rotund Quaker contending for the mastery in this valley. The revolutionary period will be represented in character. The first attempt to burn anthracite coal, with Jesse Fell blowing up the fire in the grate, down at the Old Fell House. A Conestoga wagon on its way to Philadelphia for store goods. The war of 1812 to be fully represented, as also the Mexican war, where our own Artillerists played so conspicuous a part; and then the present condition with mercantile and mechanical displays; also, the

future with a big wagon loaded with mortgages fifteen feet high, all satisfied, and a tall pole with the emblematic goose and everything lovely when we have free gas, free water, and free lunches. The procession will be about five miles long, and we will have such a jubilee as old Wilkesbarre has never yet witnessed."

Mr. Jenkins said: "The only difficulty about funds will be for the grand parade on the 4th, and I am glad that the young men have taken this matter up in earnest, and if they are determined there can be no question even as to that."

The plan contemplated an exhibition of fireworks on the 4th, and on motion of Dr. Hollister, it was

*Resolved*, That the committee be instructed to ascertain the cost of suitable fireworks, and to report the same at the next meeting.

On motion of Judge Dana, it was

*Resolved*, That the Committee on Music be authorized and directed to place four bands of music at the disposal of Col. Woodward, the Chief Marshal of the day.

Mr. O'Malley, of the Committee on Buildings, reported that it would cost about $60 to erect a booth with seats for five hundred guests for dinner, and for a platform 30x50 feet, $62.75.

On motion of Dr. Hakes, it was

*Resolved*, That the Committee on Grounds be authorized to let at a fixed rate the privilege of erecting stands for the sale of refreshments.

It had been previously determined that no spirituous liquors were to be permitted to be offered for sale.

On motion of Dr. Hollister, the name of J. C. Platt, of Scranton, was added to the Committee on Antiquities.

On motion of Mr. Chapman, the name of Bradley Downing, of West Pittston, was added to the Committee on Decorations.

Mr. Harrison Wright, Chairman of the Committee on Order of Exercises, read a contemplated programme.

but as it was not yet fully determined upon it was not filed and adopted.

On motion, it was

*Resolved*, That when this meeting adjourns, it adjourn to meet at the same place on the 11th of May next, and that after that day we meet once every two weeks.

Mr. C. E. Butler, Chairman of the Committee on Publications, through Prof. W. J. Bruce, submitted his report, which was ordered to be received and filed, with approval.

On motion, it was

*Resolved*, That the following recommendation of the committee be acted upon at once; the chairman to procure suitable circulars to be sent out without delay: "This committee further contemplates, as a portion of their duty, the drafting, in circular form, for immediate publication in the leading journals of the country a brief account of the proposed anniversary, and the efforts thus far put forth to secure its perfect success, to the end that a wider and more universal interest in the approaching event may be excited."

Mr. Parsons, Chairman of the Music Committee, reports that his committee have completed their arrangements for the music. They have four original odes. One by Mrs. H. G. Watres, of Scranton; music by Prof. Derman, of Scranton. One by Miss Susan E. Dickinson, of West Pittston; music by Prof. C. Pabst, of Wilkesbarre. One by Caleb E. Wright, Esq., of Doylestown; music, Keller's American Hymn. One by Mr. Jenkins, of Wyoming; music by Prof. Coggswell. The committee, through Prof. Derman, have secured two hundred and fifty singers, and four bands through Prof. Coggswell.

On motion of Col. Woodward, it was

*Resolved*, That the Chairman of the Committee on Invitations be instructed to extend formal invitations to the President of the United States and to the several Governors of the original thirteen States to become our guests, and unite with us in our commemorate services.

Dr. Hollister, Chairman of Committee on Historical Data, said he had received by express a box containing the original records of the colonies on the Delaware. They do not relate to our early settlements, but may be of considerable historical interest, and ought to be preserved in some historical cabinet. The Doctor said he had already commenced the preparation for the removal of his Indian relics, to be exhibited at Wyoming, and that the combined museums of himself and Mr. Jenkins will form the largest collection of these relics in the country.

Dr. Hakes exhibited an outline of the map he is having prepared, giving the topography of the more important localities in the valley, together with the clearings and buildings as they appeared a hundred years ago. He expects to have it finished between the 1st and 15th of June.

Adjourned until May 11th.

## THE CIRCULAR.

In accordance with the recommendation of the Committee on Publications, approved by the Executive Committee at its last meeting, the following circular was prepared, and after being neatly printed on a full sheet of fine paper, with an appropriately displayed head-line, was extensively distributed, as recommended by the committee:

There is a woman, widowed, gray, and old,
  Who tells you where the foot of battle stepped
Upon their day of massacre. She told
  Its tale, and pointed to the spot, and wept,
  Whereon her father and five brothers slept
Shroudless, the bright-dreamed slumbers of the brave,
  When all the land a funeral mourning kept,
And there, wild laurels planted on the grave
By Nature's hand, in air their pale red blossoms wave.
And on the margin of yon orchard hill
  Are marks where time-worn battlements have been,
And in the tall grass traces linger still
  Of "arrowy frieze and wedged javelin."
  Five hundred of her brave that valley green

Trod on the morn in soldier-spirit gay;
But twenty lived to tell the noon-day scene
And where are now the twenty? Passed away.
Has Death no triumph-hours save on the battle day?

FITZ-GREEN HALLECK.

The 3d of July, 1878, will complete the century since the fearful battle and massacre of Wyoming desolated this fair valley. Historian and poet have alike preserved the picture of that dark and bloody scene in all its lurid shades—the stern reality of facts across which falls the glowing light of romance, making Wyoming's soil to be revered as classic and sacred ground.

It is eminently fitting, then, as the hundred years are rounded up, that the descendants of those brave men should appropriately commemorate the day which saw *their* fathers seal their devotion to the cause of freedom in torture and death, and consecrate anew, with eloquence and song, the ground on which they were strewn in manly battle, or tortured and slain in treacherous surprise.

In consonance with this, the 3d and 4th of July next will witness a memorial service in honor of the day and the heroic dead, worthy alike of the brave colonists and their children, and the quiet vales of Wyoming and the busy streets of Wilkesbarre will re-echo with the recital of the thrilling story by orator and poet, with the thunders of artillery, with the tramp of thousands, and with the stirring music of martial melody.

Over the plain where the battle commenced at historic Wintermute, ending at "Queen Esther's Bloody Rock," the procession will pass, listening to a descriptive address, while at the latter the oration will be delivered which tells of the surrender, the broken faith of the treaty, the horrid butchery, and the wild hurrying to and fro of the terror-stricken women and children and aged men to escape the torture of fire and the ruthless scalping knife, and their untold sufferings as they buried themselves far over the mountain in the "Shades of Death." At the monument, erected by the unselfish de-

votion of the women of Wyoming nearly half a century ago, other and fitting exercises will be held, which will close the memorial service of the first day.

On the second day, which happily commemorates the nation's birthday, the scene will be transferred to the city of Wilkesbarre, then as now the important town of the valley. Here the memorial service will be transposed into one of celebration and rejoicing, that out of the suffering and affliction of that terrible day have come peace and prosperity, and out of its bitter defeat and cruel massacre a deathless victory. The history of the valley will be fitly and beautifully illustrated in a moving pageant, under the command of Col. Stanley Woodward as Chief Marshal, typifying the several important epochs, commencing with the aboriginal period, when the Leni Lenapes held possession of Wyoming by native descendants of that tribe. The introduction of Christianity by Zinzendorf will be portrayed by the historical tent of skins, within which will be seen the Moravian pioneer and the legendary serpent, followed by groups representing the struggle known as the Pennamite war. In the Revolutionary period will be given the battle and massacre, which will receive an added emphasis from the presence of the whole or a portion of the descendants of the Six Nations, who come from their reservation in New York to participate in the sham battle illustrative of the fierce struggle in which *their* fathers worked their cruel will a hundred years ago. The first agricultural epoch will be followed by a tableau emblematic of the war of 1812, and this by one eminently appropriate to the discovery and use of anthracite coal, in which will be seen the first grate ever used in the valley, filled with burning coal, before which the owner, Judge Fell, shall be seen persuading its combustion with a pair of bellows. The era of the post-rider and the old fashioned stage-coach will form a striking feature of the pageant, the driver, Jeff Swainbank, and his coach being the last to

transfer passengers and mails over the mountains prior to the coming of the "iron horse." Following this comes the second agricultural period, and that by the few brave survivors of the Mexican war, in which epoch Wyoming has a peculiar interest, in that the valley sent forth as her quota one company,—the Wyoming Artillerists,—of the two regiments furnished by the State. The late civil war will be properly represented, and the pageant will close with a tableau foretelling the future of the valley.

In addition to this, which will be a living panorama of the history of Wyoming, there will be in the procession a vast multitude, consisting of thousands of military, the Grand Army of the Republic from a hundred Posts, the fire departments of eastern Pennsylvania, societies of all degrees, and benevolent and trade associations of all kinds in immense numbers. If all come who have intimated their intention to do so, 50,000 strangers will visit Wyoming on these two centenary days.

The distinguished guests who have been invited to honor the occasion by their presence, and have accepted, will include the President of the United States, the Governors of the original thirteen States, and many others, great by their abilities and honored by the country for their services.

Not among the least attractive features of the memorial service will be the music, consisting of a choir of 300 voices, and an orchestra of sixty pieces, while on the evenings of the two days Theodore Thomas will delight the people with his famous concerts in the city of Wilkesbarre.

The battle field and the entire plain of Wyoming will be restored, so far as practicable, to its primeval condition. Old Forty Fort has been rebuilt, the block house and pallisades being an exact *fac-simile* of the original in location and size, while dotting the river bank will be seen the log-huts of the colonists as they appeared in the olden time.

Adding greatly to the interest of the day at Wyoming will be the gratuitous display—the largest in the country—of historical antiquities and Indian relics, which have all been gathered in the valley, and preserved with loving care by Hon. Steuben Jenkins and Dr. Horace Hollister.

Following the great event, a detailed history of its proceedings, from the inception of the design to the closing hours of the centenary service, will be published in substantial book form.

The most ample provision has been made for the coming of our guests by greatly reduced rates of fare on all the lines of railroad passing through the valley, and for their comfort and convenience while here.

The work necessary to the successful issue of the event has been performed by the several standing committees, the chairmen of which compose an executive committee, controlling the entire affair.

This committee is composed of lineal descendants of the brave men whose death they seek to commemorate, and from the first meeting on the 3d of July, 1877, they have heartily given their time and energies to making the coming event an appropriate tribute to the memory of their fathers. They invite the descendants of the Wyoming colonists, wherever they be, to return to the home of their ancestors, and aid in commemorating their gallant services and heroic death, and to the people of the land Wyoming extends a cordial welcome on this day which recalls her baptism in blood.

CHAS. DORRANCE,
*Chairman Executive Committee.*

WESLEY JOHNSON,
*Secretary.*

## DISCUSSING THE WAYS AND MEANS.

The Executive Committee met at Court Room No. 1, on Saturday, May 11th, at 10 o'clock A. M. President Dorrance, being absent from the county, Mr. Jenkins, one of the Vice-Presidents, was called to the chair.

Mr. Pettebone, Chairman of the Finance Committee, reported that things moved slowly in his department. Many persons on whom the committee relied for liberal aid have thus far failed to meet our expectations. The estimated expense of the undertaking is not less than $5,000, and thus far we have only $2,545 pledged. He said he had expected that comparatively a few of our citizens, who are abundantly able to contribute from their means without material inconvenience, would furnish the requisite amount; but as we have thus far failed in this way, it will be necessary to resort to the other and less pleasant mode of soliciting subscriptions in small sums from the people of the country.

Judge Dana suggested that the Finance Committee be requested to appoint canvassers for the various localities, and that they report at the next meeting, which will be held two weeks from to-day.

Mr. Pettebone said he regretted that the canvass had not been as thorough as it should have been. We have nothing from Pittston and Scranton, and very little from Plymouth thus far.

Judge Dana offered the following, which was adopted:

"The committees having in charge the arrangements for the proper observance of the Wyoming 100th year anniversary deem it important, as a matter of public interest, that in addition to the valuable and extensive collections of Indian relics to be exhibited by Messrs. Jenkins and Hollister, there be also placed on public exhibition the collections of the Historical and Geological Society of Wyoming and that of Ralph D. Lacoe, Esq.,

of Pittston, and any other persons having collections illustrating the geology of the valley, and papers in their possession relative to its local history; therefore, be it

"*Resolved*, That this society be invited and requested to prepare and open its rooms and collection for free exhibition on the 3d and 4th of July next, and that Mr. Lacoe and other persons possessing similar collections be requested to exhibit the same those two days, either at the building at the fair grounds, or in the rooms of the society, as they may prefer."

Gen. Osborne said that there seems to be no arrangements for a military display on the 3d, or anything connected with the proceedings on that day. As I understand it, the military display is to be exclusively for the 4th. You have invited, or will invite, the President of the United States and other high officials of the nation, as well as the Governors of the States and the officers high in rank in the army of the country. In that case it will be proper and essential that they be received as becomes their rank by a military display, and escorted to their several quarters and to the scene of the service at Wyoming by the military. Less than that would not be showing proper respect to their stations as officers and rulers of the nation.

Mr. Parsons said it was understood and arranged that the military would form a part of the grand pageant, and that the artillery at least would form a part of the symphony in the grand hallelujah chorus to be performed at the foot of the monument.

Mr. Atherton, Chairman of the Committee on Grounds, said that the question of the grounds should now be fixed. The lessee of the lands in the fair ground enclosure is holding the question open, and that no contract had as yet been made with him for the use of the same. He had conferred with Mr. Sharpe, the lessee, and that gentleman thinks he should be paid at least $175 for the use of the same.

Mr. Wisner thought this extortion, and suggested that the entire product of the twenty acres for a year would not be worth one-half that amount.

Mr. Pettebone said he had a field of eight acres adjoining the monument, and that he would put it in good condition, and the association could have the use of it free of cost.

Mr. Wisner moved that Mr. Pettebone's liberal offer be accepted, and the services be all at the monument.

Mr. Dana moved to amend by referring the whole matter to a committee, consisting of Messrs. Wisner, Corey, and Atherton, with power to act, and to report at the next meeting.

Judge Harding, Chairman of the Committee on Invitations, reported that he had prepared, with the help of Mr. Bruce and Mr. Newhouse, a form of a letter of invitation, which has been printed in manuscript style as written by the electric pen. He had also prepared cards of invitation to be distributed, at the suggestion of Mr. Beardslee, a member of the committee. He had also written autograph letters of special invitation to the President of the United States, to the Governors of the original thirteen States, and to some other distinguished citizens, as directed by the association. A sufficient time has not elapsed yet to have received answers from many of them. The Judge read a letter from ex-Governor Horatio Seymour, of New York, thanking the committee for the invitation, and stating that the recent 100-year services in their State, at Oriskany and other historic fields, had tended to make their people better and more patriotic, and he had no doubt ours would have the same happy effect. The Governor regrets that it will not be in his power to be present in person on account of previous engagements, but gives it his best wishes, and hopes for its success.

A communication from James A. Gordon was read, and ordered to be filed, in which he says it will be im-

P. N. C. Ostishout

possible for him to attend to the duty of preparing a history of Plymouth, and asks to be excused. He suggests that the history of Plymouth has already been ably written by Col. Wright, which is in the main correct, and he thinks that is all that is required.

The meeting adjourned to meet on Saturday, the 25th inst., at the same place, at 10 o'clock A. M.

THE WILKESBARRE DISPLAY A FIXED FACT.

An adjourned meeting was held at the Arbitration room, in the Court House, at 10 o'clock A. M., on Saturday, May 25th.

There was a larger attendance than usual at these meetings, which shows that the gentlemen in charge of the undertaking are warming up to their work as the time for action approaches.

Col. Dorrance called the meeting to order.

The Secretary read the minutes of the last meeting, which were ordered to stand approved.

Judge Osterhout, of Tunkhannock, was present, and submitted the original records of Old Putnam Manor, now Tunkhannock, which were kept by Zebulon Marcy, Secretary, covering the period from 1772, the time of the organization of the company in Connecticut, down to 1802, when the Decree of Trenton had established the jurisdiction of the State of Pennsylvania over all the old Westmoreland territory.

As guests of honor, by reason of their great age, Mr. Parsons stated that he would see to it that Steuben Butler, son of Colonel Zebulon Butler; John Clark, of Plains; Elisha Blackman, of Pittston, and Alvan Dana, of Missouri, be provided with a special conveyance, and that they be assigned to eligible seats at the memorial exercises.

Judge Dana, on Orations and Poems, has nothing new to report. He would say, however, that a perfect avalanche of poetry is being thrown in upon the committee, and if it be true that the age of chivalry is past, the age

of poetry is not. We have enough now to occupy the entire month of June in reading it, and it will have to be pretty cool weather too, or we will faint before we get half through.

Mr. Jenkins suggests that it be all preserved, to be disposed of in such manner as the committee shall think proper, after the services are over.

Mr. Pettebone, of the Finance Committee, says that the subscriptions now amount to $3,265. From Scranton we get nothing; from Pittston nothing; from Plymouth nothing, further than the liberal amount subscribed by one of the members of the committee, whose home is there. This result is not satisfactory to my mind, but I admit the canvass has not been as thorough as it might have been.

Mr. Osterhout says he don't think old Putnam has been canvassed at all, and if it had been perhaps the harvest would appear about as barren of results as that reaped in the richer field of the great and enterprising city of Scranton.

Dr. Hollister said there is a feeling abroad in the country that as Wilkesbarre is to be the central figure of the big show on the 4th, "let the people of Wilkesbarre provide for its expense." The greater part of the funds required for this work will be spent here, and if Wilkesbarre does not come up to the work of providing the means, the proceedings must be abridged. The funds for defraying the expense of the memorial services are assured, and if there is to be any abridgment of the contemplated display the Wilkesbarre branch of it must be the one to suffer such curtailment.

Mr. Woodward said the time is past when it is possible to seriously talk about reconsidering the Wilkesbarre celebration on the 4th. We are fully committed to this celebration, which will be of a jubilant character, and I can assure you, Mr. President, that it will be the grandest affair of the times, or that our valley has ever witnessed.

The only question to be considered is an important one, I will admit—that of money; and as I am reminded by the Chairman of the Finance Committee that I said at a former meeting that if the association fails to furnish the means, that the boys will do it, and so I say now. The preparations are already begun, and our historical and other tableaux will eclipse anything of a like nature ever undertaken in this old fogy town of ours, and if our sister city, the enterprising metropolis of the future Lackawanna county, will not "assist," why then we will just "go it alone," and you all know that a march on a lone hand counts four in a game of five. Mr. Woodward said further that he had already heard from many societies, such as Masons, Odd Fellows, Father Matthew, fire companies, temperance societies, etc., and that nearly all of these in the county will be present without any further invitations. He suggests that an appropriation be made to have printed a number of suitable hand-bills for posting up in various parts of the country. These can be got up, giving general notice of the event without reference to details, which we cannot give now, as the Chairman of the Order of Exercises has not yet fully completed his plans.

On motion, it was

*Resolved*, That the sum of $100 be and the same is hereby appropriated for printing posters.

The Special Committee on Grounds, Messrs. Wisner, Corey, and Atherton, being present, report:

"That after a personal and thorough inspection of the grounds, as between the fair grounds and the ten acres of land adjoining the monument, offered gratuitously for the use of the association by Payne Pettebone, Esq., they are unanimously of opinion that the grounds offered by Mr. Pettebone, all things being considered, are decidedly preferable to the fair grounds, and they recommend that Mr. Pettebone's liberal offer be accepted, and that the contemplated arrangements be so far modified as to fix

the place for all the exercises, except the explanatory address of the plan of the battle, which is to be on the battle ground, in the field immediately at the foot of the monument."

On motion of Judge Dana, it was

*Resolved*, That the report of the Special Committee on Grounds be accepted.

This change of the place of holding the exercises will necessitate the erection of temporary buildings for the use of the museum of antiquities.

Mr. Wisner, on Decorations, suggests that the Building Committee proceed at once to erect the necessary buildings, in order that his committee may arrange the decorations contemplated.

Mr. Harrison Wright, on Order of Exercises and Medals, reports progress, and exhibited a sample of the memorial medal struck in wax, which is approved by the meeting.

The Secretary then read the following official announcement he had received from the company:

"At a meeting of the President and Managers of the Wilkesbarre Bridge Company, held March 30, 1878, the following resolution was adopted:

"*Resolved*, That the Wilkesbarre bridge be free on the 3d and 4th of July next to all participants in the commemorative and and patriotic proceedings to be held on these days.

"W. G. STERLING,

"May 25, 1878. *Secretary.*"

On motion of Mr. Jenkins, it was

*Resolved*, That the President and Managers of the Wilkesbarre Bridge Company have the thanks of this association for their timely and generous offer.

Adjourned to meet on the 1st of June.

## CHEERING REPORTS COMING IN.

The General Committee meeting was held at the City Council rooms on the 1st of June, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Mr. Harrison Wright, Chairman of the Committee on Order of Exercises, reports that on the programme an hour is allowed for having short addresses from distinguished guests, and it is now determined that Rev. Wm. P. Abbott be assigned to occupy a portion of that hour.

Mr. Beardslee, on Invitations, says Judge Harding, the chairman, is hard at work sending out invitations and answering letters.

Mr. Woodward, of the Special Committee on Finance, gives a cheering report. We have now pledged subscriptions amounting $5,269, and he knows of $300 more that he thinks he can count on as certain. He expects to make it at least $5,500, and the entire amount required is estimated at only $5,000.

On motion, a vote of thanks of this association was tendered to Mr. Woodward for his zeal and success in the good cause, and that he deserves the good will of all concerned.

Col. Dorrance said he was pleased to hear that Pittston has waked up, and is coming forward handsomely.

Dr. Hollister said if they have waked up, don't let them go to sleep again.

Mr. Wisner said that Pittston had raised $400, and they had trouble to keep it down to that figure. Pittston will not be backward on the finance question.

On motion of Mr. Woodward, it is ordered that when this meeting adjourns, it will adjourn to meet at this place, at 10 o'clock A. M., on Saturday next, and that the chairmen of the several committees be requested to make out approximate statements and reports of the amount of money required by each in his department, to be submitted at that meeting.

Mr. Harrison Wright, Chairman of the Committee on Order of Exercises for the 3d, submitted a programme of exercises.

Notice was ordered to be given that the Committees on Refreshments, Antiquities, Decorations, Grounds, and Buildings will meet at 2 o'clock P. M., on Wednesday next, at the monument, and that all persons desirous of erecting booths or stands for the sale of refreshments are requested to meet with these committees for the purpose of selecting locations and fixing on rules to be observed during the services.

Adjourned to meet on Saturday, June 8th

IN WHICH SOME DOINGS ARE DECIDED ON.

The Executive Committee met at the Arbitration room, at 10 o'clock A. M., on Saturday, the 8th day of June.

Col. Dorrance, President, called the meeting to order.

Mr. Jenkins read a letter he had received from Mr. John Billings, of the Onondaga Tribe of Indians, who propose to send a delegation of fifty of their tribe, provided they can have all their expenses paid and $2 per day each in addition.

Ordered that the offer to pay all expenses be renewed, but that the association cannot pay the per diem wages of these braves.

Messrs. Courtright, chairman, and Laycock and Long, of the Refreshment Committee, report the bill of fare as agreed upon in committee for dinner for musicians and orators. This offers a great variety of good things.

On motion, ordered that the committee be authorized to contract with some suitable person for furnishing the dinner as per bill of fare at a reasonable price for each person served, and that the association guarantee to pay for four hundred dinners for the musicians and orators of the day. The Secretary to procure the tickets in blank, to be signed by the proper officer, the President.

Ordered that a sum not to exceed $100 be appropri-

ated to repair the monument and put in good condition where it is falling into decay.

Messrs. Pettebone, Dana, and Harrison Wright appointed a special committee to see that this work be properly attended to.

On motion of Col. Woodward, it was

*Resolved*, That this committee extend a cordial invitation to all military bodies and organizations to participate in the commemoration on the 3d and 4th of July, but in the opinion of this committee the invitation of any division as such a military body is deemed inexpedient.

Col. Woodward was directed to notify Gen. Osborne of this action of the Executive Committee.

On motion of Dr. Hakes, it was

*Resolved*, That the sum of $500, or so much thereof as may be necessary, be and hereby is appropriated to defray the expense of the historical parade and tableaux on the 4th in Wilkesbarre.

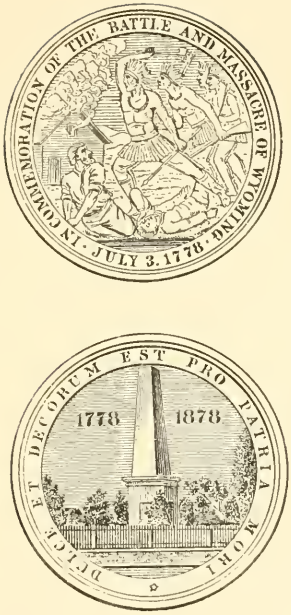
Adjourned to meet at the same place, on Saturday, the 15th inst., at 9 o'clock A. M

ITEMS FROM THE PRESS.

"*The President Coming.*—President Hayes will arrive in Harrisburg on the 2d of July, and be the guest of His Excellency, Governor Hartranft for the day. A special train on the Northern Central Railroad will leave Harrisburg, having on board these two distinguished citizens and soldies; the one the Governor of our own State and Commander-in-Chief of all the Militia of the Commonwealth, and the other the Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States. They will be met at some point by a suitable military escort and guard of honor, and upon being conducted to the monument grounds will be assigned their appropriate places in the solemn ceremonies of the day. It is not known whether Gen. Hancock will be present or not. When he was here last summer he signified his intention to be present, unless his duty imperatively required his presence in the

field. The Committee on Buildings is now negotiating for a mammoth tent to be put up on the monument grounds, capable of accommodating 10,000 persons, if the day should be rainy; or if very hot, as it most likely will be, a tent of this kind will prove a great comfort in the absence of buildings or shade trees."

"*Memorial Medals.*—Wyoming memorial medals are for sale by Faser & Smith, Timothy Parker & Son, and by Harrison Wright, Chairman of the Committee on Medals. The price is sixty cents. The subscription list for silver medals will be forwarded to-night (June 14th), but any names handed Mr. Wright to-day will receive attention. One of these beautiful medals, struck in coin silver, is now before us. It is not quite as large as a dollar piece of our coin, but it is a little thicker, and may contain about the same quantity of silver. It is appropriate in design, and the workmanship is beautiful in finish. The medal, on its obverse, represents a scene of the surprise and murder of the settlers by a band of Indians, four in number; one white man is slain, and another has fallen and is resting upon his side, and is casting an imploring look at the stalwart savage who holds his tomahawk raised and ready to deal the fatal blow. Another Indian, rifle in hand, pressing on closely in the rear, is intently watching a log cabin in the distance, from which flame and smoke are seen issuing from the roof and gable window. Other Indians are seen approaching in the back ground, armed with the deadly rifle and hatchet. The whole is surrounded by the explanatory words, 'In commemoration of the Battle and Massacre of Wyoming, July 3d, 1778.' On the reverse side is a representation of the battle monument, surrounded by the Latin legend, '*Dulce et decorum est pro patria mori*'—'Tis pleasant and proper to die for one's country.' The work reflects credit upon the artist, who, we understand, is chief designer in the Philadelphia Mint. Seven of the medals have been struck in gold,




THE MEMORIAL MEDAL

and will be awarded as prizes in regattas, or for the best displays of civic or military associations. The medals in bronze are very pretty, showing off the figures even better than those in silver. Every family descended from the stern old patriots who participated in that bloody fight should possess one of these."

A meeting was held on Saturday, the 15th day of June, 1878.

The President, Col. Dorrance, read a communication from the Committee on Invitations of the Valley Forge Centennial Association, inviting this association to send a delegation to the Valley Forge celebration on the 19th instant.

Ordered that the President be requested to attend on that day as a representative of Wyoming.

The President signified his acceptance of the trust.

On motion of Mr. Corey, ordered that the Chairman of the Committee on Invitations extend the same invitation to the Valley Forge Association, if it has not already been done.

Mr. Wisner submitted a plan of decorations to be put up at Wyoming, and asked that a further sum of $100 be appropriated to his department.

On motion of Dr. Hollister, ordered that the committee be directed to act, the expense not to exceed $400.

On motion of Judge Dana, ordered that the Committees on Buildings and Museum of Antiquities be instructed to make suitable provision for the proper exhibition of the group of statuettery representing the massacre of Wyoming, so exquisitly modeled in clay by Mr. Hazeltine, of Wilkesbarre.

Judge Dana read a letter from Rt. Rev. Bishop O'Hara, of the Scranton Diocese, regretting that his time would be so occupied by his pastoral duties during the next month as to prevent him from being present to lead some of the religious services, as he had been invited to do

The Judge said that the Rev. Father O'Harran, of St. Mary's Church, had signified his acceptance of a similar invitation subsequently extended to him.

Adjourned to meet at the same place, on Saturday, the 22d inst., at 9 o'clock A. M.

The following newspaper mention of June 24th was only a joke of course, but it may have had its effect to bring in persons always anxious to witness unusual events, all the same:

"*What Next?*—It is said that Barnum's big show will so arrange its appointments as to arrive in Wilkesbarre on the morning of the 4th, and join in the centennial procession, and present tableaux of oriental life, one of which will be a grand triumphal entry of the Empress of India into Benares on the back of a gigantic elephant, seated in the gorgeous State Houdah of the ancient monarchs of that barbaric country. This to be followed by other high officials riding on elephants and dromedaries, with pages mounted on giraffes and zebras. Sir John Franklin will be represented in the Harbor of Desolation, surrounded by polar bears, white foxes, and sea lions. Stanley's explorations in Africa will be represented by roaring lions and growling hyenas, and a band of savage Africans in their native costumes, with a gang of slaves chained by their necks on their way to the Portugese or Arabic dealers, where they are to be sold to the traders for shipment to civilized countries. All these and more will be represented on that day."

## THE WORK GOES BRAVELY ON.

The Executive Committee met at the Arbitration room, at 9 o'clock A. M., on Saturday, June 22d.

Col. Dorrance, the President, called the meeting to order soon after. The President said he had attended the Valley Forge Centennial as a representative of Wyoming in a two-fold capacity—to obtain some practi-

cal knowledge of the mode of arranging the details, and to engage the great Lexington tent, that is capable of sheltering ten thousand people, in case the weather should not be favorable for out-door exercises. It will be here; is now on the way. The tent is one hundred by two hundred and fifty feet, has six central poles, with a flag on each; it is clean and neat, and will make a beautiful appearance, and add greatly to the attractive display at the monument.

Chief Marshal Woodward submitted a general appropriation bill, which, after being amended so as to appropriate $2,000 for the exercises at Wyoming on the 3d, was adopted, and the several sums therein named appropriated as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Expenses at Wyoming | $2,000 |
| Historical Parade | 500 |
| Music by the Bands | 400 |
| Decorations at Wilkesbarre | 500 |
| Printing | 300 |
| Carriages | 150 |
| Fire-works (evening of the 4th) | 500 |
| Erecting Stand for Speakers | 50 |
| Wyoming Artillerists | 250 |
| Sprinkling Streets, etc | 50 |
| Telegrams and Miscellaneous | 50 |
| Firemen's Reception | 75 |
| Total | $4,825 |

Judge Harding, Chairman of the Committee on Invitations, said: "I have sent out thousands of invitations. To some, as the President of the United States and the Governors of States, I have promised hospitality, but a great majority of them have been general invitation to the parties addressed, inviting them to join with us in the commemoration. Some have accepted, and will be present. Many have sent their regrets, and a few have as yet made no reply. Among the high officials who

will honor us with their presence, I am happy to report that His Excellency, the President of the United States, and His Excellency, Governor Hartranft, have signified their acceptance of the invitation, and will be here on that day. Judges Strong and Mercur, of the Supreme Court, will be here also. It is not necessary to enumerate at this time all who will honor us with their presence, but the happiest feature will be that the people will be here from all the surrounding country. I am assured from personal observation in my travels that every town, and every hamlet, and every fireside in this large county, and the surrounding counties, nearly all the dwellers will be here on that day. Let us welcome them kindly, and show them that old Wyoming now, as in the past, knows how to greet her friends, or to meet her enemies, if need be, as on the historic field in front of Wintermute, where so many of our unfortunate ancestors yielded up their lives as upon Queen Esther's bloody rock."

Col. Dorrance said: "Wyoming's sons in the past have stood high in the estimation of the country for generosity and hospitality, and I feel assured that the generation of to-day is not degenerate, and I trust that all who can will invite some friend or acquaintance to partake of their hospitality, if, as the showmen say, 'for one day only.'"

Judge Dana reported that everything was prepared by the Committee on Orations and Poems.

On motion of Col. Woodward, it was

*Resolved*, That Messrs. Hoyt, Dorrance, Pettebone, Harding, and Dana be appointed a special committee to receive the President and Governor Hartranft, and entertain them during their stay.

It is now arranged that the Presidential party will arrive at Wyoming by a special train on the Lackawanna and Bloomsburg Railroad on the morning of the 3d; that they will be escorted to the fine old mansion of Mr. Pettebone at Wyoming, where they will be entertained

till the ceremonies at the monument demand their presence there. At the conclusion the party will drive to Col. Dorrance's suburban farm mansion in Kingston, where, after being refreshed with a cup of the Colonel's excellent tea, they will be escorted to the Wyoming Valley Hotel, in Wilkesbarre, where a splendid suite of parlors have been engaged for their accommodation

On motion of Mr. Shoemaker, it was ordered that a committee, consisting of the following named gentlemen, be appointed to raise a special purse of $250, to be expended in the purchase of prizes to be awarded to the competitors for superiority in the regattas contemplated by the various boat clubs who have signified their intention to be present on the 3d and 4th, viz: E. A. Niven, L. D. Shoemaker, H H. Harvey, Lewis C. Paine, Isaac E. Long, Thomas M. Kesler, and P. H. Campbell

On motion of Judge Harding, it was ordered that the sum of $100 be appropriated to our colored citizens, who propose to participate as a body in the parade and general exercises on the 3d and 4th

Mr. Jenkins submitted a letter from Mr. Billings in behalf of the Onondaga Tribe of Indians accepting the proposition made to them to attend on the 3d and 4th There will be about fifty of these aboriginese in their war paint and feathers here on these days. But the people need have no fear for their scalps, as these are a civilized and christianized people, and only put on the trappings of savages on special occasions, although they are genuine red men of the forest. They will have many articles of their handiwork to dispose of as curiosities to the hunters after such, who may be present

The following named gentlemen were appointed a committee to receive and take care of our native guests while they remain with us, viz: Rev. Abel Barker, Wm. L. Raeder, J. P. Atherton, Robert Laycock, and Jeremiah B. Shiffer.

Mr. I. E. Long exhibited samples of centennial badges.

On motion of Mr. Woodward, it is ordered that the General Committee approve of these designs, and authorize Mr. Long to sell them on the grounds, or elsewhere, as he may think proper.

Dr. Hollister presented the map of the valley as it appeared a hundred years ago, which has been prepared by his committee.

Judge Dana said this map is a creditable work of art, and moved that the same be adopted by the Executive Committee and sanctioned as being substantially correct in all its details, and that the thanks of this association be extended to Messrs. Hollister, Hakes, and Sturdevant for their services in preparing the same.

Mr. Harvey said that the Committee on Grounds will meet at the monument on Monday, the 24th instant, to locate the tents and fix upon places at which refreshment stands may be erected.

Mr. Corey said the buildings are progressing satisfactorily. The one for the exhibition of the museum of antiquities is nearly completed.

On motion, it was ordered that the Supervisors of Kingston township be requested to see that no booths or other stands be erected on the public highway.

On motion of Mr. Jenkins, ordered that a committee of four be appointed to select a police force to maintain good order on the 3d on the monument grounds, to report at the next meeting.

The President appointed on that committee William Kelly, S. B. Stillwell, Joseph Heilman, and James P. Atherton.

Adjourned to meet at the monument, on Thursday next, at 3 o'clock P. M.

The letter of the President, informing the association of a positive acceptance of its invitation to him to participate in the services, both memorial and patriotic, is decidedly democratic in all respects. It is written on a

small sheet of note paper, and is not a model for writing masters' to study, unless it be to avoid the style of chirography, and is in the words and figures following:

EXECUTIVE MANSION,
WASHINGTON, *20 June, 1878.*

*My Dear Sir:*

I have delayed a definite reply to your esteemed favor of the 4th of May last until the adjournment of Congress. It now seems proper to say that I know of no public duty which will prevent me from attending your very interesting celebration on the 3d of July. It will give me great pleasure to be present.

Sincerely,

R. B. HAYES.

HON. G. M. HARDING.

MEETING AT WYOMING.

An adjourned meeting of the Executive Committee was held at the house of J. R. Laycock, on Thursday, June 27th, 1878.

The President, Col. Dorrance, submitted a letter from a daughter of Rosewell Franklin, ninety-four years of age, expressing a deep interest in the approaching memorial, but saying that she was unable attend on account of her extreme age, and its consequent enfeebling effects.

Mr. Stillwell and Mr. Atherton, of the Police Committee, were present, and the committee was ordered to make report to the meeting of Saturday, the 29th.

Mr. Seabert, of the Delaware, Lackawanna, and Western Railroad, said ample arrangements would be made by his road to carry all passengers who desire to come to Wyoming on the 3d. Trains will be run from Wyoming up to 10:30 P. M. The Presidential car will arrive here at 9:14 A. M. on the 3d.

On motion of Col. Woodward, the Rev. Abel Barker was ordered to be added to the Committee on Reception

of the President of the United States and the Governor of Pennsylvania, and that the committee confer with Superintendent Halstead, of the Delaware, Lackawanna, and Western Railroad, as to the movement of trains on the 3d.

On motion of Dr. Hollister, it was ordered that the sum of $100 be appropriated to Ely Post, G. A. R., of Wilkesbarre, to assist the Post to entertain visiting companions on the 3d and 4th.

On motion, the application of Charles Feurstein for an appropriation to defray expenses of exhibiting the group of statuary representing the massacre of Wyoming in the parade of the 4th of July was recommended to favorable consideration, and a committee, consisting of Messrs. J. R. Coolbaugh, Ziba Faser, and Garrick M. Miller, was selected, with authority to collect money to defray the expenses, not to be chargeable to the general fund.

On motion, it was

*Resolved*, That the President and Chief Marshal be authorized to make arrangements for a suitable military display on the 3d as well as the 4th.

All the committees on preparatory arrangements report their work as well advanced as the nature thereof will admit.

Adjourned to meet at Wilkesbarre, at 9 o'clock A. M., on Saturday, June 29th.

PRELIMINARY WORK DONE.

The last meeting of the Executive Committee, previous to that on memorial day, was held at Wilkesbarre, on Saturday, June 29th.

President Dorrance in the chair, stated the object of the meeting to be to ascertain from reports, now called for from the chairmen of the several standing committees, whether all has been done that is required by way of preliminaries concerning our expected demonstrations on the 3d and 4th.

General Hoyt said no definite arrangement has as yet

been made for providing a suitable military escort to receive the President and Governor of the Commonwealth on their arrival at Wyoming.

Col. Dorrance said that in the multiplicity of duties devolving upon the proper committees, it was probable that this important one had been overlooked. It would not be showing proper respect to these high military officials—the one the Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy of the Nation; the other of the forces of the Commonwealth—and that he would take upon himself the responsibility of supplying the important omission. He had already had some correspondence with Major Boise, of the Scranton City Guard, and he would guarantee that nothing should be lacking in this respect.

Favorable reports were received from all the gentlemen having the arrangement of any details in hand, and as there seemed no further business requiring the action of the General Committee, the meeting adjourned to meet at Wyoming on the morning of the 3d of July, not as a body, but as citizens, to join with the great throng of visitors from all parts of the country expected to be there on that day.

## ITEMS FROM THE PRESS.

Items of interest connected with the memorial clipped from the local papers a few days before the ceremonies:

"*A Work of Art.*—The triumphal arch being erected at the foot of Market street is a structure of considerable merit as a work of art, and by contrast the other arches will appear to disadvantage. This will be a work that will reflect credit on the artist, Mr. Hawkins, and be something that its projectors may contemplate with just pride. The indiscriminate display of green boughs without order or taste in their arrangement adds but little to beautify the town. Better have but few ornamentations, and have them meritorious, than a profusion of chaos in green foliage to tire and distract the senses."

"*Artillery to the Redout.*—The point from which a national salute is to be fired by the Artillerists on the morning of the 4th is said to be at the intersection of Franklin and North streets. We hope the committee in charge of this matter will modify the order so that the firing may be from the old historic redout on Upper River street. The firing in a thickly populated portion of the city is of doubtful propriety, and we understand that there are aged people and infants in that vicinity to whom the jar in firing the pieces may prove fatal; and there is also danger in breakage of windows in Memorial Church and many private dwellings thereabouts. Let the firing take place from the redout by all means. Nothing could be more appropriate. That is the old place where artillery was wont to thunder on the fourths of July of the past, and where more than a hundred years ago these fearful engines frowned with their ugly muzzles upon any hostile keel boat man who should attempt to pass this prominent landmark."

"*Crowding.*—The officers of the railroads entering directly to this city have been notified by the connecting lines from Philadelphia, Reading, and others places, that they should provide transportation for at least twenty thousand passengers beyond the usual travel on the 3d and 4th. There are large numbers of persons in Philadelphia and the large cities who usually make excursions to the sea shore and other public places on the 4th, and they are now making their preparations to attend the Wyoming exercises."

"The The Delaware, Lackawanna, and Western Railroad Company will sell tickets to Wyoming and return on the 3d and 4th at 25 cents for the round trip."

"Rev. Abel Barker has engaged a special car to bring the Onondaga Indians to Wyoming on the morning of the 3d."

"*River Steamers.*—The steamer Hendrick B. Wright will make two trips to Forty Fort on Sunday, leaving Wilkesbarre at 1:30 and 6:30 P. M., remaining at the fort one hour at each trip. The afternoon trip to Nanticoke will be one hour later than regular time.

"*Distinguished Democrats Coming.*—We are advised on authority that Hon. A. H. Dill, the Democratic candidate for Governor, State Senators Allen and Yerkes, and Hon. R. Milton Speer will arrive at the Kingston station on the afternoon of the 2d. A delegation of their friends will meet them there, and escort them to their quarters at the Wyoming Valley Hotel, where they will remain during the centenary services. There will be no parade or ostentatious reception, and his coming here at this time is not for political effect; but Mr. Dill will be happy to meet and form the acquaintance of all his political friends who shall think proper to honor him with a call."

"*Preparations at the Monument.*—The Executive Committee visited Wyoming yesterday to inspect the arrangements, and for the transaction of business. Everything is being done that can be in advance, and the work was approved. The committee voted to appropriate $100 to Ely Post, G. A. R., to assist in defraying the expenses of receiving their guests."

"Col. Dorrance will have a house full of distinguished guests on the 3d and 4th. Among others he will entertain Hon. Asa Packer, of Mauch Chunk; Hon. John T. Rush and family, of Niagara Falls; and ex-Mayor Westervelt, of New York."

"Mr. J. Falk has the contract to furnish the Wyoming Valley Hotel with meat on the 3d and 4th. The first order is for 6,400 pounds of beef and mutton, 12 lambs, and 4 calves."

"*No Banking on the 3d.*—The banks of this city have all agreed to close on the 3d, so far as receiving or paying out money on checks is concerned. Their doors will be opened from 2 to 3 o'clock P. M., and an officer will be present to protect maturing paper, but that is all the business that will be done. The 4th being a legal holiday, of course no business can be transacted on that day."

"*Look Out for Them.*—Chief of Police Gilchrist has just returned from a trip to New York. While in that city, he had a conference with Police Commissioner Walling, who informed him that a large number of thieves and pick-pockets are leaving, and making their way hither to reap a small harvest at our 4th of July celebration."

"Mr. Alvan Dana, of Missouri, an old-time citizen of Wilkesbarre, arrived here yesterday to attend the centenary services. Mr. Dana is upwards of eighty years of age, but is still active for one of his years. He will be the guest of his relative, Mr. Calvin Parsons, of Parsons borough."

"*Up in a Balloon.*—Let us have the balloon by all means. Mr. John Wise, Jr., the champion æronaut of the world, proposes to make one of his grand balloon ascensions to contribute additional *eclat* to the celebration on the 4th. His proposition will be submitted to the Executive Committee at their meeting on Saturday next. This would be a very attractive feature of the celebration, and we hope it may be approved by the committee."

"*Such is Fame.*—An enterprising druggist in Pittston has spitefully put upon the market a "Wyoming Centennial Chicken Powder," just as if the Wyoming folks had not load enough to carry already."

"*Burns Reversed.*—That sweet old songster of Ayr sang in days of old,

> "O, that some power the gift wad gie us,
> To see ourselves as others see us."

But that is what not we most desire in this day and generation, but it is that others might see us as we see ourselves and our surroundings. For this reason, we are well pleased when an artist or an author comes, the first to take pictures of our scenery, or the latter to write about us, always presupposing that his descriptions do but flatter our vanity. And just now we seem to be a central figure in the world of art and letters. Here we have had the New York *Graphic* man to take us for his journal; when, before we have time to breathe our satisfaction at the result, along comes Mr. E. H. Hart, the artist, from Philadelphia, accompanied by Mr. Bell, a well-known photograper from the same great city of high art, to take views in the valley of some of its fine scenery. This is another verification of the laws of trade governed by supply and demand. Our forthcoming centennial services have aroused a spirit of inquiry in the whole country, and these people are but catering to the tastes of their customers in furnishing the goods. Mr. Hart has taken rooms at the Bristol House, where he will be pleased to receive suggestions as to the most eligible and attractive points to best display our beautiful Wyoming scenery."

"Under the direction of the Executive Committee, the Wilkesbarre Centennial Hospital will be established on the 4th upon the premises of Dr. E. R. Mayer, on River street. Drs. Mayer, Guthrie, and Harvey, the physicians selected by the committee, will be in attendance during the day, and will gratuitously furnish remedies or surgical aid to all sick or injured persons who may apply at the hospital. An ambulance will be in readiness to convey those who are seriously ill or wounded to their homes, or to the Wilkesbarre City Hospital."

"*Some of Our Visitors.*—Capt. A. W. Taylor, Quartermaster of the Veteran Corps Battalion of Philadelphia, arrived here on Tuesday evening. His coming at this time is to secure quarters for the corps for the 3d and 4th. Capt. Taylor was in command of one of the companies of the Twentieth Regiment, stationed here last summer, and made many friends during his stay. We understand that he has engaged the use of the fine residence on River street, recently erected by Mr. G. Murray Reynolds, now vacant, for the military headquarters of the veterans, and that it will be fitted up in fine syle, and used by them during their stay. There will be about 135 in the battalion, which will be under the command of Adjutant General Latta. These war-worn veterans are making arrangements to have a good time of it, and enjoy their little reminiscences of the tented field with as little discomfort to themselves as possible."

"*How to Come to Wyoming.*—Mr. H. P. Baldwin, of the Central Railroad of New Jersey, writes to inform the Committee on Railroad Fares, that his road will issue excursion tickets, good from the 1st to the 10th of July, from any point on its line to Wilkesbarre at two cents a mile. Mr. Halstead, of the Delaware, Lackawanna, and Western Railroad, says he will make the same rate. Mr. Sayre, of the Lehigh Valley Railroad, will make the same rate, and two special trains will be run from Easton, landing passengers at Wyoming on the 3d, and probably the same arrangement will be made for trains from the north. Mr. Thos. Dickson, of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company, says all passengers attending the Wyoming exercises will be carried at half rates. The specific time allowed the excursionists is not mentioned in any of the above offers, except the Central Railroad of New Jersey, which limits the time to ten days, but it is probable the others will give the same terms. Instructions will be given to the ticket agents at once, and notice given to the public."

"*Our Guests.*—His Excellency, Governor Hartranft, and Henry Armitt Brown, will be the guests of Stanley Woodward, Esq. Senator J. Donald Cameron, wife and two daughters, and Col. A. Wilson Norris, will be entertained by Gen. H. M. Hoyt. Hon. Wayne McVeagh will honor Mr. John C. Phelps with his company Hon. Chas. R. Buckalew will be entertained by his old neighbor, Judge Rhone."

"*One Hundred Years Backward.*—The map of Wyoming Valley as it appeared one hundred yeas ago, prepared under the supervision of Dr. Hakes, is now finished, and it is a wonderfully accurate representation of the topography of the valley, and the courses and distances are laid down with mathematical accuracy. It gives all the principal improvements of that day. Beginning with the old forge and grist mill at Nanticoke, their positions are accurately noted, and a brief reference is given to each in explanatory notes at the bottom. The Indian villages are all located, as well as the settlements and forts of the Connecticut colonists; the cleared lands, hills, and plains; the lines of battle on the bloody 3d of July; and the river, as well as the smaller streams. The Doctor is deserving of great credit for the skill and judgment, as well as the energy, he has shown in preparing so valuable an assistant to the students of our local history, but we must not give all the credit to him, for he was ably seconded in this work by his assistant on the Committee on Maps, Mr. Wm. H. Sturdevant, whose skill as a surveyor helped to reduce the first brief outlines to order and accuracy of detail. Mr. Thomas Flemming, of New York, is the artist who completed the map."

Hon. Wm. Bross, ex-Lieutenant Governor of Illinois, and now the President of the Chicago Tribune Company, has engaged rooms at the Wyoming Valley Hotel, and will attend the one hundredth year exercises of the 3d and 4th.

L. of C.

"*Another Pole Raising.*—At two P. M. to-day, if the weather shall prove favorable, a pole will be raised on the northwestern boundary of the old stockade at Forty Fort; if the weather is not favorable, then on the next fair day. The trenches of the old stockade will be opened to demonstrate the true location of the same. An invitation is extended to all the old citizens of the valley and the public generally to be present. The above action was agreed upon at a meeting held on the 20th instant, at which John M. Pettebone was Chairman; R. McD. Shoemaker, Treasurer; and M. Walker, Secretary."

"The billiard tables at our principal hotels are to give place to dining tables on the 3d and 4th. This is a good move, and will be duly appreciated by the hungry crowds that will gather here."

"Mr. George Murphy, of Sheshesquin, whose mother was a sister of Judge Obadiah Gore, one of the first judges of Luzerne county, and who was born in Judge Stroud's barn in September, 1778, his mother having fled from Wyoming at the time of the battle, will be a guest of his relative, Mr. John G. Wood, on the 3d and 4th."

"Several of the visiting fire companies will be quartered in the large storehouse building of Z. Bennett & Co., on North Main street, called the iron warehouse. The building is a large one, three stories in height, and with proper cleansing will afford comfortable quarters for a large number of men."

"Col. Woodward has received positive assurance that the Second Regiment of the National Guard, from Philadelphia, will be here on the 3d and 4th, 350 strong, and bring with them their fine bands and drum corps. Col. Wickersham will be the commanding officer. What in the world will we do to provide for this great influx of humanity?"

"*Don't Croak.*—Our centennial parade to come off in this city is already bearing good fruit in the increased activity in every branch of business. Everybody is making ample preparations for the grand event. The tailors are overrun with orders for new suits; the dry goods merchants are all full of business; the painters are at work fixing up things so as to make them look respectable; the street commissioner has a full complement of men repairing streets and street crossings, while others with ladders and saws are intent upon lopping off the branches of trees that for so long have obstructed the carriage-ways on Franklin and other streets. All this betokens better times, and this is the spirit that is needed to bring about a resumption of business. Let those slow coaches who have poo-poohed the attempt of a few enterprising old fogies to engineer this thing on to success, remember that it is not by sitting down with folded hands to bewail the hardness of the times that the times are to be made any better. The country is as rich as ever it was. Nobody has lost anything, only by the coming down of fictitious values. Let us all buckle on the harness, and go to work at something. Action is what we want—action! action! action!"

"*Our Distinguished Visitors.*—President Hayes will be accompanied by his wife and two sons, and Governor Hartranft by his wife and two daughters."

"Fifteen teams and sixty-five men and boys left town at six o'clock yesterday morning to procure evergreens for decorative purposes on the 4th."

"Mr. A. Clinton Snowden, city editor of the Chicago *Times*, is here to do the centennial memorial at Wyoming to-morrow. He expresses himself much gratified with the appearance of things here, and his account will occupy a large space in our Chicago namesake on the 4th and 5th."

"*Tenting on the Old Grave Yard.*—Ely Post, G. A. R., will set up a tent 36x100 feet on the lot donated to the Wyoming Geological and Historical Society, in the old grave yard grounds, near the corner of Market and Washington streets, to be used as headquarters during the 3d and 4th. We are not informed whether the visiting members of the Grand Army intend to camp here during these days, but presume many of them will, and kindle anew the old camp fire as of yore, and at night wrap themselves in the regulation blanket and lie down to dream pleasant dreams on the bosom of old mother earth, where so many of the forefathers of the rude hamlet slumber beneath the green turf."

"*Making Hay while the Sun Shines.*—Andrew H. Dill, the Democratic nominee for Governor, accompanied by United States Senator Wallace, and Messrs. Bucher, Allen, and Yerkes, and ex-Congressman Speer, arrived at the Wyoming Valley Hotel last evening, and were escorted to their quarters by a few personal friends. In the evening they were serenaded by a band of music, and received the congratulations of many political friends of Mr. Dill. Senator Dill responded in a neat little speech, which made a favorable impression on all who had the pleasure to listen to it."

"*An Interesting Exhibit.*—The Hon. Sylvester Dana, of Concord, N. H., arrived here yesterday, bringing with him an original oil painting of Gen. John Sullivan, whose name is so intimately connected with the history of Wyoming, though his great military expedition arrived here the year after the battle."

"Landmesser's Hall, at the corner of Main and South streets, has been secured by the colored people as headquarters for their visitors for the 3d and 4th of July. A large number of these, our enthusiastic fellow-citizens from different parts of the county, will be in attendance."

"*The President's Cane.*—Captain T. C. Parker has on exhibition a beautiful cane of buck-horn wood, cut on the Wyoming battle ground, and varnished in its natural condition, having a solid gold head, quite heavy. On the gold top is engraved, 'Presented to the President of the United States by the Ladies of Wyoming Valley, 1878.' This cane, so appropriate in its associations with the President's visit here and the occasion, is to be presented, as the inscription indicates, at the coming visit of His Excellency."

"*Veterans to Arrive.*—The Veteran Battalion of Philadelphia. Col. James W. Latta, the Adjutant General of Pennsylvania, commanding, will arrive this evening (July 2d), at 8 o'clock. They will be saluted by the firing of thirteen guns by the Wyoming Artillerists on their arrival, and will be met by a reception committee and escorted to their quarters in the G. Murray Reynolds house on River street.

"*All Things Prepared.*—During the afternoon of the 2d a committee of observation, composed of representatives of the press of Wilkesbarre, visited Wyoming for the purpose of viewing the state of preparations for the coming day. This committee reported that they found everything in a state of forwardness, and prepared as far as possible in advance, for the ceremonies to follow on the 3d. The great Lexington tent was up, as were all the buildings required, and booths for the sale of refreshments in abundance. Dr. Hollister was found hard at work arranging his collection of Indian relics, and had been hard at work since early morning. Mr. Jenkins had not got his collection in place, but intended to remove them the same evening. Accommodations for the newspaper correspondents not very ample, and some improvements were suggested to the workmen engaged in giving the last touches to the preparations. Mr. Pettebone was found busily engaged preparing for the

Presidential party to be entertained on the morrow. He had three large tents pitched on the lawn surrounding his residence, where he intends entertaining the distinguished guests to a breakfast and dinner. The committee appointed to escort the President and party from Northumberland had everything arranged for leaving at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, and the special train will arrive at 9 A. M. to-morrow; Mr. Fred. C. Johnson, of Wilkesbarre, to accompany the committee as special press reporter.

"This report was regarded as entirely satisfactory, and was the last act of preparation for the 100th-year memorial to follow. Nearly all the leading journals of the country will be represented by able correspondents, and those of New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, Cincinnati, Boston, St. Louis, and other towns and cities will contain full reports of the interesting ceremonies, sent by telegraph immediately upon the conclusion of each day's transactions."

# SERVICES,

## AT THE MONUMENT,

### JULY 3, 1878.

N Tuesday evening, July 2d, the committee of escort, consisting of the following named gentlemen, viz: Abel Barker, of Wyoming; W. R. Storrs, of Scranton; Abram H. Reynolds, of Kingston; Dr. Benj. H. Throop, of Scranton; Theodore Strong, of Pittston; and Benj. F. Dorrance, of Wilkesbarre, proceeded to Northumberland by special train furnished by courtesy of Superintendent Halstead, of the Delaware, Lackawanna, and Western Railroad, arriving there at 10 o'clock the same evening. The Presidential train arrived at the same point during the night from Harrisburg; and at 5 o'clock A. M. all the arrangements had been made for continuing the trip. At 5:30 the Presidential party received the escort in the parlors of the hotel, and after the ceremony of mutual introductions and a cordial greetings all around, the train started soon after for Wyoming, the great central point of attraction for many thousands from all parts of the United States on this 3d of July, 1878.

The Presidential party occupied a Pullman palace and another car for baggage, the engine "Shawnee" carrying the veteran engineer Charles Gurvis, and profusely decorated with flags and bunting. Stops were made at

Bloomsburg, Berwick, Shickshinny, and Kingston, at all of which places brief speeches were made by President Hayes, Attorney General Devens, and Secretary of the Treasury John Sherman, the immense gathering of people greeting the distinguished party with unbounded enthusiasm. At Bloomsburg, the Hon. C. R. Buckalew stepped aboard, and returned the remarks of welcome. All of these stations were decorated in fine style, and thousands of persons availed themselves of the memorable opportunity of shaking hands with the President. Mr. Hayes was accompanied by his estimable wife; Mrs. Sollace, a friend of Mrs. Hayes; the two sons of the President, R. A. and Webb G. Hayes; O. L. Pruden, Assistant Secretary of the President, and Mr. Crump. Governor and Mrs. Hartranft were attended by their daughters, Marian and Annie, and their two sons, Samuel and Linn; Chester N. Farr, Private Secretary; H. B. Howland, of Indianapolis, and Jas. P. Sterrett, Judge of the Supreme Court.

Wyoming was reached about 8:30 o'clock amidst a great throng, the City Guards of Scranton being drawn up in line, under command of Major Boies, as a guard of honor. As the train approached the station, in accordance with a preconcerted arrangement, Mr. F. A. Seabert, a railroad official in charge, directed the engineer to give four shrieks from the locomotive whistle, which was the signal agreed upon for the Wyoming Artillerists to open fire with their battery of four guns for the Presidential salute, the cannon immediately belching forth their thunder in honor of the supreme executive head of the National Government. The distinguished guests were met at the station by the Committee of Reception, consisting of Col. Dorrance, Mr. Pettebone, Dr. C. S. Logan, Gen. Hoyt, Judge Harding, Gen. Dana, and Mr. Woodward. As he stepped from the train, the President was introduced to the assembled multitude by Rev. Abel Barker in his neat impromptu manner, when three rous-

Payne Pettebone

ing cheers were given for the President of the United States

The address of welcome was by Gen. Hoyt, who said the agreeable duty had been assigned to him of welcoming the President to Northeastern Pennsylvania, this being the first instance in the history of our country that we had received such distinguished honor from the head of the nation. We have met here to rehearse the disasterous events of deeds done a hundred years ago on this very spot where we now stand, and where all is so changed from what then greeted the eyes and senses of the pioneers in this beautiful valley. General Hoyt said that during the necessarily brief stay among us of His Excellency, we hope to show him the material features of the valley; its beautiful fields and fertile farms; its churches and school houses and factories; the mighty machinery that gives impulse to its varied industries; its almost inexhaustible deposits of anthracite coal that lie buried beneath its rich soil; and many other interesting features which contribute to illustrate the thrift and industries of the people. In conclusion he said, "Our people rejoice that you are with us, and I take great pleasure in turning you over to their hospitality."

Miss Jennie Seabert, of Shickshinny, a little girl dressed in white, presented the President with a beautiful boquet, which he received with a gracious smile, that will probably ever remain a pleasant memory to her while she lives.

The President then thanked the committee for the very flattering reception and welcome he had received, and in return presented Attorney General Devens and Secretary Sherman, members of the Cabinet. After which he stepped into a barouche in waiting, accompanied by the two Cabinet officers and Col. Dorrance, and was driven to the residence of Mr. Payne Pettebone, whose guest he was during his stay at Wyoming, there to partake of a generous breakfast lunch, and enjoy a

short repose after the all night ride from Harrisburg. The party was escorted by the Scranton City Guards, with officers mounted, and making a decidedly martial display.

### THE DAY WE COMMEMORATE.

During a brief space, the expected exercises of the day were anxiously awaited by the surging mass of not less than ten thousand hot and perspiring people, who had vainly sought shelter under the immense Lexington tent. The day was marked by a cloudless sky, from which the sun poured down its hottest rays from an early hour in the morning, while every hour added to the multitude that was pouring into the field surrounding the monument, until there was an assemblage that no man could number. Probably not less than fifty thousand persons visited the grounds during the day. Shortly after 9 o'clock the booming of guns was heard from the direction of old Forty Fort, where the Wyoming Artillerists had arranged for the firing of a salute as a signal for the opening of the appointed exercises of the day. As Col. Dorrance was doing the honors to the Presidential party, and necessarily absent from the place of meeting at this time, Judge Dana assumed the direction of affairs, and the appointed exercises were proceeded with.

The band, under direction of Prof. Coggswell, gave some choice selections from "Maritana;" after which the following prayer was very earnestly and ably offered by Rev. D. J. Waller, a descendant of a family that suffered severely in the massacre:

### PRAYER OF REV. MR. WALLER.

"God of our father, our God and Father in Christ Jesus, in the name of our Divine Redeemer we approach Thy throne of grace to pay our homage, and to render unto Thee our thanksgiving and our praise. Thou hast created us rational, accountable, and immortal beings. Thou

hast opened unto us sinners the way of salvation through the blood of Thy dear Son. The lines are fallen unto us in pleasant places. We have a goodly heritage. Thou didst lead our fathers to this region of beauty, fertility, and hidden wealth. Here they rejoiced in Thy smile, and trembled at Thy frown. On this frontier of civilization and christianity Thou didst call them to stand for that liberty wherewith Christ makes his people free. Help us, O Lord, to-day, as the revolving year and the rounded century recall the scenes of carnage and sounds of wailing, to estimate truly the purchase and the price. We would tenderly recall and enshrine in our hearts the memory of those who braved the storm to shelter their succeeding generations. We bless Thee for the heritage of truth and freedom bequeated to us. Make us faithful stewards of this great trust. Called to stand against human wrong, or hellish unbelief, may we be strong in the Lord. Open thine eyes to behold the mighty power enlisted on the side of divine and human right. Let peace and righteousness prevail in this favored valley and in all our land. May Thy word enlighten every household, and Thy spirit enliven every heart. May our rulers be peace and our exactors righteousness. Bless especially, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy servant, the Chief Magistrate of this great nation, and endow him richly with wisdom and all heavenly grace. And may the chief executive officers of all our States be participants in the same rich blessings. Impress upon our legislators a deep sense of their responsibility. May the ermine of justice be everywhere preserved from pollution. May our whole people be a God-fearing people. And when we leave this earthly heritage to our children, may we enter upon that inheritance—incorruptible, undefiled, and that fadeth not away—reserved in Heaven for all them that love the Lord and wait for His appearing. And the praise and the glory shall be unto Him who sitteth upon the throne, and to the Lamb forever. Amen.'

At this juncture the Presidential party arrived on the platform, accompanied by Governor Hartranft and staff in full uniform, the President being at once recognized was greeted with prolonged applause, and on being introduced by Col. Dorrance, Chairman of the Executive Committee, spoke as follows:

## THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

"*Ladies and Fellow-Citizens:* It will be impossible for me to make myself heard by any considerable part of this great assemblage. I do not think, however, that it is of any great importance, as I have not been set down for any formal speech on the programme. The centennial which we commemorate to-day differs materially from any of those more joyous ones celebrated during the past three years. Yours—ours, if I may be permitted to say so, for the battle of Wyoming one hundred years ago to-day was of national importance, and being a citizen of our great republic, I claim some of the glory and endure some of the sorrow that attaches to any of its citizens. And living as we do, removed one hundred years from the stirring events of the Revolution, we have had a considerable number of centennial anniversaries, and Pennsylvania has borne so important and honorable a part in those events which made us a nation of free men, that it is not to be wondered that the celebrations in this State should be largely attended. The great deeds of daring warriors and accomplished statesmen are enthusiastically remembered. But this grand ingathering of the people here to-day is a peculiar one in many respects. It is not the celebration of great military achievements or wonderful statesmenship. It is a pioneer demonstration in honor of the men and women who settled this valley, reclaimed the wilderness, and fitted it up for the habitation of a civilized people. Almost every part of these United States has its similar celebrations in honor of the pioneers, and most of them have

passed through the same bloody experience in their contests with the wily savages of the forest. It was so with James river, the 'dark and bloody ground' of Kentucky, in Ohio, and the same scenes are to-day being enacted in Idaho, Arizona, Colorado, and elsewhere." He then gave his views on the manner of our treatment of and treaties with the Indian tribes. He did not charge all Indian wars to unfair dealing, but said they were some times instigated by unprincipled white men, or prompted by foreign nations. He said that in any event in their intercourse with the red men, white men should be protected in their homes and possessions. He paid an eloquent tribute to the gallant Custar, and said that in case war with the Indians could not be avoided, it should be made as short, sharp, and decisive as possible.

The President's speech was listened to with marked attention, and at its close Mr. Steuben Jenkins presented him with a handsome buck-horn wood cane, having a solid gold head, engraved with the words, "Presented to the President of the United States by the Ladies of Wyoming, July 3d, 1878," and the gift was gracefully acknowledged by the recipient.

Hon. Hendrick B. Wright was next introduced by the Chairman, Col. Dorrance. Col. Wright had prepared the address of welcome, but at this point in the proceedings so great a hub-bub and commotion was caused by the appearance of eighteen Onondaga Indians in full war paint and feathers, direct descendants of the redskins, some of whom assisted in the massacre, that to attempt an address of welcome, or anything else, seemed a hopeless task. These distinguished braves took seats on the platform in true Indian style, by squatting upon the floor, and everybody seemed to be impelled by a childish desire to get a sight of them in their normal simplicity of attitude. Had it not been for the fact that the Onondagas are now a partly civilized tribe, and that they no longer follow the war path, their presence at this time

could have been nothing less than odious; as invited guests, however, they were welcome, and lent a special feature to the occasion.

During the height of the excitement the speaker said the white people here making all this racket and confusion behaved more like savages than did these children of the forest, from whom lessons in decorum were to be learned by many present. But at length order was restored, and Col. Wright delived the following address:

COL. WRIGHT'S ADDRESS.

*My Friends:* I speak the prologue of this centennial anniversary. I am but the Herald, to proclaim the opening ceremonies of this grand and imposing pageant, and to bid you all a welcome to this consecrated ground, baptized in the blood of heroes. A hundred years have made their annual round since the exciting events occurred which make this field immortal. A thousand cycles more will detract nothing from its renown, nor dim the lustre of its glory. The Wyoming battle field is chronicled on the page of history. They will live together; one will not survive the other. We do not form our opinion of the grade and character of the battle we assemble to commemorate, compared with other fields, as to the numbers engaged or slain, or the consequences dependent upon the issue. If this were so, the small band at Thermopylæ, who fought under the shade of Persian arrows, or the charge of the Six Hundred at Balaclava, would be absorbed in the fame of Marathon and Platea, of Jena and Waterloo. On this ground four hundred breasted an uneven conflict, and three hundred of the four were left upon the sanguinary field. History furnishes us with but few examples, in the great battles of the world, where the carnage was so great, compared with the rank and file of the little army which filed out of yonder fort on that fatal 3d day of July, 1778. Our estimate of the character of the battle of Wyoming must

Hendrick B. Wright

be formed upon the courage and valor of our men; upon their deeds of daring on the field; upon their contempt of death itself, and of the almost unprecedented slaughter. Measured in this way, the undaunted courage of the four hundred who braved the storm of serried war will favorably compare with the like number of men that ever marched on a battle field, under any captain, in any age, or in any land. And in the name of these martyrs, whose lives were sacrificed upon the altar of Freedom; here upon this field, stained with their hearts' blood, in the presence of this vast multitude, I boldly challenge the world—barbarous, civilized, or enlightened—to name their superiors in courage and manly fortitude. To their country they dedicated their lives. We are here to reap the rich harvest of their faultless memory. May their daring example, in future trials, be our cloud by day and pillar of fire by night.

A hundred years have passed, and he who speaks to you has scored seventy of these; and in that long and eventful time our love and affection have clung closer and closer to their memories. To those of us who were born in this valley, and have listened to the sad story of the battle and massacre from the lips of those who mingled in the fray, or have had the tradition handed down to us fresh and green from the reeking field, there comes up at this time, and amid this display, a sensation of profound veneration for the bravery and valor of our dead. Many of us, who are residents of this valley, have become owners, by inheritance or purchase, of the estates of the men who fell in the battle, and on them we have erected our family altars and reared our children; and thus, year after year, has the power of association brought us in close and intimate relations with the story of the stirring and exciting events of this field. To us, therefore, there is no battle ground which ranks with that of our valley home. It is the common property of us all; nor can we allow partition to be made of it.

But it is no part of the duty assigned me, in this day's business, to speak of the details of the conflict, or the massacre, which made this spot one of the most bloody and revolting scenes of the American Revolution; nor to classify or enumerate the opposing, contending forces who met here in hostile array, or name those who commanded, who fell, or who escaped the dread ordeal of battle; nor shall I dwell upon the repulsive and sanguinary deeds which on this plain leveled civilization to the instincts of brutes. Where the war between men speaking the same language, born under the same government, and in some instances linked by the sacred ties of the same blood and kindred, made the slaughter more hideous and a carnage unparalleled. The civilization which marked the Christian era a hundred years ago should have governed and controlled the angry passions and turbulent will of men reared and educated under the sublime lessons of the cross. The unbiased judgment of an enlightened world asserts this. But the feeling and conduct of those infuriated men, composed of British regulars and volunteer American Tories, were in accord with the wild and untamed children of the forest, impressed with the idea from infancy that bloodshed, and torture, and revenge were manly virtues, and the proper subjects of reward in the spirit world, totally ignorant of those God-like principles of clemency, mercy, humanity, and forgiveness, revealed to man, and sealed in blood upon Calvary.

For these untutored children of nature there was an apology in their acts of brutality practiced upon our unfortunate people, captured upon the field and afterwards submitted to the torture. But what can be said in extenuation of the wicked conduct of that other branch of the invading army, composed of Tories and British regulars, born and educated under the genial influences of a higher order of civilization, and imbued with the belief of the future accountability of man, who, if they did not

participate in Indian revolting barbarities, might at least have suppressed the frantic orgies, or alleviated the cruelties by the sudden death of the victims?

Of the details of these horrid scenes, at the close of the battle, I shall not speak; or of the heartrending sensibilities of those who were out of danger, but witnesses of that carnival of blood that made that night hideous, which threw its dark mantle over a field of horror and woe; or of the widespread consternation which visited helpless and terror-stricken women and children, whose fathers and husbands and brothers lay prostrate upon the field of death; or of the wild, devouring flames which consumed and devoured their humble dwellings—a perfect bon-fire of hell, and a torch-light in the path of demons! The recital of these events is assigned to those who will follow.

As the Herald, at the close of a century of years, and after the long and composed sleep of our fathers, I stand here to-day on the same ground where they fell, and in the presence of tens of thousands of sympathizing and anxious people from all parts of this broad country, to proclaim the opening of these imposing ceremonies.

And in behalf of the illustrious memory of the dead, and with the good will and generous impulses of the descendants of those whose brave and honorable deeds have summoned us together, as well as by the united voice of the whole population of the Valley of Wyoming, I bid you welcome! Welcome, visitors, to the land once occupied by heroes! This is no empty and unmeaning pageant. It is an electric chord that binds the living to the dead. The visible and invisible in communion. Earth and heaven clasping hands. Memory, rich, exultant, triumphant, impressing the great multitude with the moral lessons of imitation. Do thou likewise, when the time and occasion demand the sacrifice.

You come here with willing hearts to swell this grand pageant, making it imposing in numbers, and grand in

your sympathies. You come, with laurels in your hands, to help us weave a chaplet for our dead, and to join us in swelling an anthem in their praise. You come, a countless multitude, far exceeding any these mountains and plains ever witnessed before. You come, in strength and majesty; the high official and the man of toil; the rich and the poor; the high and the low; without class or distinction; all upon the common level of equality; worshiping at one shrine; imbued with one idea—honor to the dead.

But you come in the hour of peace and tranquility. The terrific yell and screech of battle have lost their echo in the decades of a hundred years; the mountain walls which skirt this lovely valley will hear it no more forever; the glittering spear and lance are broken; the smoke of musketry has ascended to the clouds; the red stains of blood are blotted out; the groans and anguish of the dying have ceased; and the widow's wail and the orphan's cry are silent; the forest trees, under whose branches deeds of daring valor were done, have fallen before axman's blows; and the virgin glebe has yielded to the plow-share of the husbandman.

You come in the hour of peace and plenty; the fields of waving grain proclaim your welcome; blades of corn supply the blades of steel; and old nature has cast a smile over the hostile field; the tear that suffused her eye dropped upon fresh graves; but it was a tear of welcome to the dead hero, for it was a symbol of immortality.

But you come with sympathizing hearts. You come to bow in silence over the mouldering bones which repose in peaceful grandeur at the base of yonder mausoleum. Humble in its pretentions for the great event it chronicles, but its blocks of granite have been piled up by grateful hands, and by men with throbbing hearts. The loftiest pyramid of the Nile is no more expressive than this little shaft which designates the spot where our

fathers fell, and commemorates their valor; and never did lofty column rest upon the bones of braver or more patriotic men. There is solemnity in its simplicity; there is eloquence in its silence. It is a type of the pure and rugged men whose names are carved upon its tablets. It is the monument of *our* Bunker Hill. Let it be venerated for the great idea it suggests—"*Dulce et decorum est pro patria mori.*" It tells us there is a reward for the brave and good. By night and by day, in sunshine and storm, in the winter's cold and the summer's heat, it silently, but significantly, points to the spirit home of the men who sleep the sleep that knows no waking at its solid base.

We respect it, too, because it bears the names of many of our most honored citizens, and who are among the representative men of this fair valley. And those of us "who had no friend or brother" in the fight, but born upon the soil, or having selected the valley as our home, will not be second in our love and veneration for the men whose memory it preserves. The hundred thousand people who to-day are residents of the Wyoming Valley claim this monument, and the glories which cluster around it, as their common property, and their joint inheritance.

Let us here, then, in the presence of each other, upon this battle field, and beside the bones of patriotic heroes, resolve to support and maintain that Government which they, with other patriotic men, established in this land at the cost of their lives. Let us be moved by that impulse which is above and beyond all others—the perpetuation of the American Union! And to that league, let the departed spirits of the slain upon this field bear witness.

### MRS. WATRES' ODE.

Next came the beautiful ode, "Wyoming," composed by Mrs. Watres (Stella of Lackawanna), of Scranton, a gifted sister of song to Dr. Hollister of the same place.

Set to music by Mr. C. B. Denman, Musical Director of the day. Chorus of 500 voices. Band accompaniment (sixty pieces).

WYOMING.

Over the dust of a century's dead,
Hushed be our laughter, and muffled our tread:
Voice no loud anthem; we stand where they stood
Kinsmen that hallowed the turf with their blood:
Soft as the strains of a lute o'er the sea,
Let the deep chords of our symphonies be;
Noiseless the footfall, and low bowed the head,
Over the dust of a century's dead.

Who has not shuddered, with cheek ashen pale,
At the appalling and soul-thrilling tale,
Traced o'er the page of a weird long ago,
With the deep pathos of measureless woe?
Who never traversed—tho' seas roll between—
Cool breathing wildwood and shadowed ravine,
Where rang the war-whoop and bended the bow,
Of a red-handed and treacherous foe?

Curls the blue smoke from a home so apart
That never quickened a throb of the heart,
O'er the dire story of rapine and wrong,
Blighting our beautiful valley so long?
Stretches a solitude—gloom-girt and far—
Where gleams a sunbeam, or glitters a star,
That never caught, from the night-wailing blast,
Hints of our tragic and terrible past?

As clears the mist from the forehead of night
Brightening the sky; see! what sparkle, what light,
O'er the green slope of meadow and hill,
Where the wild roses are nodding at will:
Over the river that moaned in its flow,
Twice fifty perilous summers ago,
Where, by its tide, in the sunset's low fires,
Fell, with slow torture, our fiend-hunted sires.

Down the far centuries—winding their way
'Mong the gray vapors of time—shall the clay,
Tenderly wrapped at the granite's pure feet,
Be all forgot in life's hurry and heat?
No! sob the waves from the muse-haunted shore;
No! sigh the forests, with arms drooping lower;
Nor may the years—swift as eagles above—
Purge the red stain from the valley we love.

Over a century's historic dust,
This be our legacy, this our proud trust—
That no invading and arrogant tread
Press the dear turf folded over our dead:
And the sweet tide of each incoming spring
To our fair homes no disloyalty bring:
This be our legacy, this our proud trust,
Over a century's love-hallowed dust.

In the programme of exercises, C. I. A. Chapman, Esq., of Pittston, was assigned to deliver a short address, but it was found that the exercises as arranged were too extended, and the address was omitted, as was that of Judge Dana, who also gave way to the next on the programme. The following, being the closing paragraphs of the address of Mr. Chapman, as intended to be delivered, is well worthy of a place in the annals of the day, the entire paper not being at hand:

MR. CHAPMAN'S ADDRESS.

A late writer and traveler speaking of the ruins of ancient Balbec says: "A race of gods or of giants must have inhabited Balbec many a century ago. Men like the men of our day could hardly rear such temples as these. In a great pit in the quarry still lay the mate of the largest stone in the Temple of the Sun—a solid mass of stone, fourteen feet wide, seventeen feet high, and seventy feet long, squared and ready for the builder's hand, just as the giants of that old forgotten time had left it when they were called hence; just as they had left it to remain for thousands of years, an eloquent rebuke unto such as are prone to think slightingly of the men who lived before them."

Friends, let me repeat the sentiment, "They left it to remain for thousands of years an eloquent rebuke unto such as are prone to think slightingly of the men who lived before them."

Such there are in the world—self-sufficient and vain glorious fools—who look upon the present as the most

perfect of all ages, and the past as barbarous and valueless. To such this monumental pile speaks in no softening or subduing tone, carries no majestic and solemn front; but to the true philosopher and sterling patriot its utterances are neither trivial or obscure. That obelisk which commemorates Wyoming's day of suffering and sorrow stands before you in its modest grandeur, as completed by my fair countrywomen, with the simple story told upon its sides far better than I can narrate it.

As Napoleon said to his legions at the foot of the Egyptian pyramid, "The past generations look down upon you from the summit of this monumental pile, and call you to lives of fortitude, of virtue, of patriotism; call you to sacrifice all of greed or of lust, of passion or of prejudice, and lay them willingly and cheerfully upon the altar of your country, her institutions, and her honor," so let yonder cold and silent monitor, mute in the language of the baser senses, yet ever appealing to the finer emotions of our natures, remind us that it is our duty to emulate the virtues and patriotism of those brave men, whose mortal remains are now mouldering back to mother earth beneath its solid foundations, and who yielded up their lives on this plain, that we, their descendants, may enjoy the fruits of the sacrifice.

The past can never return. The future is before us all, and I know not how I can sum up all I would say in conclusion better than by continuing the quotation with which I set out, wherein the author describes his emotions as he visited the Egyptian Sphinx. Something of his pathos and his meaning I would ascribe to our monument here:

"After years of waiting it was before me at last. The great face was so sad, so earnest, so longing, so patient. There was a dignity not of earth in its mien, and in its countenance a benignity such as never anything human wore. It was stone, but it seemed sentient. If ever image of stone thought, it was thinking. It was looking

towards the verge of the landscape, yet looking at nothing—nothing but distance and vacancy. It was looking over and beyond everything of the present, and far into the past. It was gazing out over the ocean of time; over lines of century waves which farther and farther receding closed nearer and nearer together, and blended at last into one unbroken tide away towards the horizon of remote antiquity. It was thinking of the wars of departed ages; of the empires it had seen created and destroyed; of the nations whose birth it had witnessed, whose progress it had watched, whose annihilation it had noted; of the joy and sorrow, the life and death, the grandeur and decay of five thousand slow revolving years. It was the type of an attribute of man; of a faculty of his heart and brain. It was memory—retrospection wrought into visible, tangible form. It is grand in its loveliness. It is imposing in its magnitude. It is impressive in the mystery that hangs over its story, and there is that in the overshadowing majesty of this eternal figure of stone, with its accusing memory of the deeds of all ages, which reveals to the beholder something of what he will feel when he shall stand at last in the awful presence of his God."

This it is friends—this spirit I would here invoke; this feeling I would here arouse, and bid it lift you out of your fond dream of selfishness and littleness to the grand conception of American liberty! The idea that all material greatness and grandeur; all accumulation of the fruits of science, art, and industry; all that wealth may amass, learning ornament, and philosophy develop, are but as the small dust of the balance compared with the preservation of eternal justice, mercy, and truth—of the immortal principles on which American liberty is based, and without which it must soon crumble to utter and undistinguishable ruin!

The Rev. Charles Dana Barrows, of Lowell, Massachusetts, was then introduced, and, after a few remarks, read the following poem:

A TRIBUTE OF MASSACHUSETTS TO WYOMING.

We come with reverent feet
To stand beneath the shadow of thy hills,
While, touched by unseen hands, the being thrills
With strange vibrations as, with awe, we meet
Thy past, O vale of tears!

Within this magic hour
The circuit of a hundred years is closed,
And with electric thrill, where all reposed
But yesterday, the echoes leap with power,
Forth from the thrall of years.

With the pulsating air
We breathe the terrors of that fearful strife
See in each shining leaf the red man's knife,
And sunlit dew-drops on the lily fair,
Are newly fallen tears.

Oh! is it not a dream?
The answering doves intone a requiem soft,
The willows fling despairing arms aloft,
Then droop, in hopeless grief, upon the stream.

Far up among the pines, with mighty surge,
The echoes meet in mournful rise and swell,
While quivering grasses in the shady dell,
Mingle their murmurs with the solemn dirge.

The falling torrent shivers in their power;
The mountain tops are veiled in folds of haze,
Whose vapory blueness hides from mortal gaze
Their still, mute agony in memory's hour.

Wrapped in majestic silence, grand and stern,
The giant cliffs their awful secret keep;
A tremor stirs even the lake's calm deep,
Smiling to cheer the timid fluttering fern.

Shrinking we stand, to hear and see and feel
The dead past springing up to life anew,
When, sweeping on before our wondering view,
Behold! we trace the wheel within a wheel.

Edm^d L. Dana

Rolled through the ages by the hand divine.
It leaves amid the gloom a track of light;
Thus the fair vale received a glory bright,
And blessings that eternally will shine.

Here Freedom made her regal resting-place,
And mighty deeds were born of courage rare,
While saintly women — gentle, pure, and fair
With strength from Heaven, met death with shining face

Or cowering within the "Shades of Death,"
They wept for loved ones killed before their eyes,
Watched their dear homes in flames, and smoke arose,
Mingling like incense with their praying breath.

Bathed in supernal radiance from the cross,
Brave souls went up to wear a martyr's crown,
And, from the heights of Heaven to-day look down
To see their victory through pain and loss.

The winding Susquehanna's peaceful flow
Gave earnest, then, of a triumphant hour,
Fed from the hills — is moved in quiet power,
Amid the sorrows of the plain below.

The circuit breaks, the century moves on
All nature smiles — but, as cloud-shadows fall
At noon, come tender memories of all,
Who gave us liberty, so dearly won.

The following address was prepared by Judge Edmund L. Dana, whose grandparents on both sides—the Stevens' and Danas—were killed in the massacre, but not read, as the programme was found to be too extended to admit of all the exercises laid down therein:

## JUDGE DANA'S ADDRESS.

The Battle and Massacre of Wyoming have been so often and circumstantially described in history, and will be so beautifully presented in the poems, and so fully treated in the addresses, to which your attention will soon be invited, that a lengthy account at this time would be a needless addition to the overcrowded programme of the day. They are, however, the events we

are here to commemorate, and a brief introductory recital of the leading facts, on the spot where they occurred may serve to explain the exercises which are to follow, and thus add to the interest of the occasion.

The battle was not one of the great battles of history, either in the skill displayed, the numbers engaged, or in the casualties suffered. It was fought, however, against superior numbers, arms, and discipline, and in defense of life and home. It was great in the motives which prompted and the courage which inspired the heroes who gave their lives to their country and their example to all time.

One hundred years ago this day they stood where we stand. The same July sun shone upon them, the same river reflected its beams, the same soil was beneath their feet, and the same mountains enclosed them. Stationed upon a remote and exposed position, they had been disciplined to trust in God and in their own strong arms The trial of their faith and strength was at hand; an enemy who recognized no plea for mercy, no rule of civilized warfare, was upon them; hate and havoc occompanied their march.

The few defenders of the valley whom the pressing exigency of the general government had left at home, numbering between three and four hundred, were gathered in council at Forty Fort on the morning of July 3d, 1778, and after consideration of all the facts within their reach, resolved on giving battle. The enemy, comprising about four hundred British provincials, a body of Tories, and from five to seven hundred Indians, entered the valley on the morning of June 30th, through a notch of the mountains just above where we are now assembled On the 1st of July they took possession of Fort Wintermute, treacherously delivered to them, and having dispatched parties to gather cattle and provisions, a flag was sent, and another on the morning of the 3d, demanding the surrender of Forty Fort. Both were promptly

refused. Learning from his scouts, and those accompanying the flag, that the Americans were preparing to attack, the Tory Butler, at about two o'clock in the afternoon formed his forces in line, with the left, under his immediate command, resting on the rising ground just above Fort Wintermute, whilst the left, consisting of Indians and Tories, occupied a swamp. Parties of Indian marksmen were concealed on either flank.

The American force consisted of only six organized companies, and were joined as they marched out, at about two o'clock P. M., by such of the old and young in the Fort, as were able to handle a gun. From the Fort to the Monument, they came along the route of the present road, and thence to where they met the enemy their line of march was along the brow of the steep bank which separates the low river flats from the plain. From time to time, as the small column advanced, scouts were sent forward, and precautions taken against ambuscades and surprise. On approaching Fort Wintermute, then in flames, they found themselves in front of the enemy, and deployed the left into line; the right, comprising Captains Bidlack's and Hewitt's companies rested on the bank, and the left under Captains Whittlesey and Stewart, upon the swamp. The distance from the bank to the swamp, and the length of the respective lines of battle, were some five hundred yards. Col. Zebulon Butler supported by Major John Garrett commanded the right, and Col. Denison aided by Lieu't. Col. Dorrance the left of the line. Advancing in this order they met the enemy, and at about four o'clock began firing, advancing as they fired, whilst the British left wing slowly and in good order fell back. The firing was rapid and continuous along the whole line, and was especially destructive upon the American left. The Indians in overwhelming numbers and with fearful yells, issued from the swamp and turning their flank began to close in upon the rear. The only alternative, as reinforcements could not be furnished, was a change

of front in this portion of the line: But with undisciplined troops, with an attenuated line, in which death had made large gaps, and where a dense growth of scrub oak and pine impeded regularity of movement, the attempt to retire the left flank under such pressure and embarrassment resulted in its giving way. The Indians and Tories, encouraged by success rushed from their coverts, and although on the part of staff and company officers, all that courage could do, was done, the line gradually crumbled away from left to right, and finally, broke from control and fled. In many cases officers and men disdaining to fly were shot down fighting at their posts, and some few left alone by the flight and pursuit, passed through the swamp lately occupied by their foes, to the mountains and thus escaped. The Indians having gained the rear of the American left before the flight began, dispatched with rifle, tomahawk and spear, many of the fugitives, whilst many more were captured, and their deaths that night, at "Bloody Rock" and other points, amid the glare of torches and savage yells and dances, with such aggravation of cruelty as malice and mockery could devise, have caused the day and event to be designated as a massacre rather than as a battle. The force which marched from Forty Fort numbered as stated, between 300 and 400 men. After the massacre 227 scalps were presented by the Indians and payment made for that number by the British government. Many are known to have been shot in the river, whose scalps were not taken, so that two hundred and fifty would seem to be a reasonable estimate of the killed. This exceeds the number whose names are inscribed on the monument, and the number given by the several historians of the valley. It is believed, however by those who have carefully examined the records which time has brought to light, that the accuracy of this estimate can be established by adequate proof, and a commitee has been appointed by our local historical society carefully to enquire into and report upon the facts.

The duty assigned to me, of presenting a brief outline of the battle and its disastrous results has been accomplished. To others, on whose alloted time I may not encroach, it belongs to tell of the destruction of property and homes, of the weary wanderings of defenceless widows and children, to gather up and group the sad lessons of that day, and also to speak of the flowers of peace, prosperity and wealth which in the century just closed, have sprang up to bless the soil bedewed with our fathers blood.

FAIR WYOMING.

Next came the original ode, "Fair Wyoming". Contributed by Miss. Susan E. Dickinson, and set to music by Prof. Charles Pabst of Wilkesbarre, which was rendered by the centennial chorus, led by Prof. C. B. Derman. The words are as follows:

VOICE of proud song, on all our hills
Send forth a mighty tone!
Make thou our dead who nobly died
To latest ages known.
Let every wind that sweeps abroad,
Be vocal with their fame,
Till high hearts, near or far, are stirred
At fair Wyoming's name.

Breathe low, breathe low, oh voice of song!
For martyred ones who fell,
Mother and babe, by burning homes,
Thy requiem notes must swell.
Yet with the dirge should blend a strain
To tell of triumph won!
We reap the fruit they sowed in tears;
Sing out their benison!

Remember these, with those who pressed
To battle bravely on;
The young, whose bright fair brows yet wore
The glory of the dawn;
The old, who gathered back their strength,
For God and home to die;
Ring out, ring out, oh voice of song,
Of praise and victory!

# BEAUTIFUL WYOMING.

A poem by Rev. Henry Coppee, L. L. D., President of Lehigh University.

THE INVOCATION.

STREAM out, O flag, o'er mount and plain,
To greet this glad Centennial morrow!
They reap, in joy, the ripened grain,
Whose fathers sowed in blood and sorrow.

Let thundering salvos rend the skies,
War's music lend its thrilling power,
And shouts of men accordant rise
To welcome in this happy hour.

Anon, let reverent silence rest;
An instant hush the wild commotion,
While mute appeals, to Heaven addrest,
Arise on wings of pure devotion.

Then when the fervent prayer is said,
Let grand thanksgivings rise in chorus
To Him who, as the years have sped,
Hath sent His cloud and fire before us.

O Thou, who wast our fathers' God,
In danger's dark and bloody hour,
Still be their children's sure abode,
Their refuge strong, their mighty tower!

# FAIR WYOMING.

O MATCHLESS vale, when first the white man's eye
Caught a bright glimpse from yonder fissure high [1]
He saw the ideal of the poet's dream,
And claimed thy beauties for the poet's theme.
To him no fairer region had the sun
In his revolving journeys beamed upon:—
Pure, limpid rills, bright skies and balmy air;
Rich plains, glad promise to the planter's care;
The painted hills, in checkered beauty proud,
Flecked with the varying shadows of the cloud;
From Lackawanna's gap to Nanticoke,
Crowned with embattled pine and vine-wreathed oak

The mighty river pours its brimming tide,
While bending o'er the marge on either side,
Scarlet and purple flowers inflame the wood,
And on the stream reflect their mantling blood
The red deer, pencilled on the clear blue sky,
Tosses in pride his antlered crest on high,
Then, bounding swift to shun the gaze of men,
Seeks his sure covert in the tangled glen:
While soaring high, in majesty serene,
The fierce gray eagle hovers o'er the scene,
Unconscious symbol, in the days to come,
Of patriot valor, and fair freedom's home!

What wonder that of this romantic vale
In distant lands went forth the alluring tale?
That blue-eyed Saxon and mercurial Celt
Came to find homes where perfect freedom dwelt?

[1] Campbell's Ledge——a precipitous ledge, about five hundred feet high, on the east bank of the river, at a point where it enters the valley from the north

That bleak New England sent her thrifty men
To seek for richer fields in this fair glen?
That, warmed to life by Campbell's tender tale
Of Gertrude, fairest flower of all the vale,
Old Pantisocracy would fain renew
The social fabric which a Plato drew?

But one there was, who, in a nobler quest,
Came, with the zeal of Heaven within his breast;
Good, pious Zinzendorf, who journeyed far,
Not for the greed of gold, or spoils of war:
Gentle and honored in his native land,
He left his friends and home at God's command;
And, counting earthly riches but as dross,
Plunged deep into the forest with his cross,
And fearless stood, where wondering natives ran
To hear strange tidings of the SON OF MAN.

See, as he lies beside the forest fire,
Like Paul at Melita 'mid dangers dire,
The wily Indian glides, the axe is raised:
What stays his arm, what hath his vision dazed?
O'er the reclining form, innocuous creeps,
The deadly serpent, while the good man sleeps:
The murderous foe starts back — "The man is blest;
'Tis the Great Manitou that guards his rest!"

The days of settler strife and feud are o'er,
Peace spreads her wings on Susquehanna's shore.
If hardy life condemn to daily toil,
What rich rewards rise teeming from the soil!
How large the promise made to honest worth
Of a new Eden on this troubled earth!
On Susquehanna's banks, an age of gold,
Like the pure age by ancient poets told,
When man, once more, as in his first abode,
Secure from sin and ill might walk with God!

If day brought toil, when the soft waning light
Recalled to rest with "voices of the night,"
A holy calm, with swift but noiseless wing,
Came down in angel guise on Wyoming.
The moon is up, one broad and dazzling gleam
Of rippling glory lies athwart the stream;
The groups of gray-haired men, your sires of yore,
Meet on the sward around the cottage door,
Or wander thoughtful by the river's brim,
And chant in unison, the holy hymn:

While to the sound of measured music sweet
The youths and maidens ply the nimble feet,
With shout and song, with laughing game and jest,
Till thought of morning labor warns to rest.

Years pass, the days of peace are numbered now:
Thick clouds are gethering on the mountain's brow.
For, darkly hovering on the western verge,
With English scorn and Tory hate to urge,
The red man lurks with ancient vengeance filled,
To blast these fields by patient labor tilled:
Brief the delay, the portents quick expand;
The first blood spilt, war rages through the land!
Our country calls, her valiant sons reply:
Where honor beckons them, to do or die!

All who are strong to fight have left the glen,
Its only guards are boys and ancient men.
Yet, in that desperate hour no laggards they;
Quick they build forts to hold the foe at bay;
Nor yet too soon, for, ere the work is done
Under the burning of the summer sun,
Hark! from the western notch the distant drum
Give token dread that heartless Butler comes:
Behind him streams a wild and cruel band
From the Six Nations of the Northern land.

Never, since old Thermopylæ was fought,
Had sterner issue met the patriots' thought;
They cannot fly, red ruin lies in flight;
No succor promised, naught remains but fight:
'Tis thus the council gives its last report,
'Mid the tumultous scenes of Forty Fort.
And valiant Butler,[1] doubting ere they go,
Leads forth his little band to meet the foe;
Not far, for serried ranks in proud array
Are marching fast to bar their onward way.

[1] Col. Zebulon Butler commanded the patriots, and Col. John Butler, the Tories and Indians. It is not known that there was any relationship between them.

# THE BATTLE.

OH, for a muse like his who sung
Of Flodden field with fiery tongue,
And Scotland desolate!
Oh, for a strain to touch with tears
Your eyelids through a hundred years
Since Wyoming's sad fate.

Fierce Butler holds the left with rank
Firm posted on the river bank,
While, stretching far away
To where the hill and valley meet,
The red man in his veiled retreat
Lies panting for the fray.

The host is hushed, no sound is heard
Till rings the leader's clarion word,
"Stand firm, my boys; to-day we fight
For wives and babes and country's right,
For liberty and life!"
Then glimmering in the noonday sun
The fated band sweeps bravely on,
And plunges in the strife.
A thousand musket shots ring out,
A thousand voices wildly shout;
And groans and shrieks that rise in air
Tell of the dreadful carnage there:
The war-whoop shrills from foe unseen,
Then, bounding from the leafy screen,
Like tiger from his lair,
The painted Indian comes amain,
With arrow-flight like stormy rain,
And tomahawk in air.

With rapid glances cast around,
Our leader seeks a surer ground:
"Fall back," he shouts; the unhappy word
Through battle din is faintly heard;
A fatal echo sounds "retreat!"
The meadow swarms with flying feet;
And Panic, with its withering breath,
Strides o'er the field in league with death.

What anguish filled the leader's soul
When rank on rank, beyond control,
Reels back and back, a stricken host,
And flies the field before 'tis lost,
Nor hears the frenzied cry :—
"Stand firm, my lads, O stay, yet stay !
And victory still may crown the day :
Or let us stand and die !"

Too late, alas ! the huddling ranks
Rush to the hills and river banks.
On these the tomahawk is plied ;
On those who seek the flowing tide,
A thousand bullets spend their force,
And strew the stream with many a corse.

Mark but one fiendish deed, the worst
In annals of war-crime accurst :
You know the tale. With words of cheer,
And smiling promises to spare,
A brother lured his brother back
From the swift river's devious track.
"Come safe to land," he cried :
His father's son comes faint to land,
And there, instead of rescuing hand,
He cleaves him down with fiendish scream,
And throws him backward in the stream
Dead, floating on the tide !

A ghastly scene the morrow's sun
In lurid brightness shines upon :
The Mohawk war-hoop echoes round,
The mangled bodies strew the ground ;
The eager vulture swooping low,
Follows the track of cruel foe
To glut itself with blood;
Till silent desolation's gloom
Settles upon that field of doom
By Susquehanna's flood.

# THE FLIGHT.

OF all the band that saw the morning light
But few were found to guide the fearful flight ;
The war-whoop peals upon the Western wind ;
The wilderness before and flames behind :
Fear lends them speed : by broken paths they fly,
To cross the desert, o'er yon mountain high.

And who the horrors of that flight can hear,
Nor shed, even now, the sympathetic tear?
Old women, taxed beyond the strength of years,
Drop on the sand o'erwhelmed with mortal fears.
Through Pocono they press with scanty breath,
And call the marshy heights "The Shades of Death"
There, helpless mothers, sinking to the earth,
In fearful travail of untimely birth,
Bear their dead babies by the dusty road,
And leave them naked to a chastening God ;
Or, wandering on, in Nature's sorest pain,
Clasp the dead blossoms with a frenzied strain,
Till generous hearts come forth to greet and save,
And give each waxen form its little grave.

The strife seems o'er, though desolation reign ;
The wasted settler ventures back again.
A touching story crowns that later time ;
No sadder tale is found in poet's rhyme :
One child there was who met the bitterest fate,
Snatched by an Indian from her flying mate,
While, rushing wild, like Grecian Pythoness,
The mother shrieked her impotent distress.

Poor little Frances,[1] sought by friends in vain,
Through weary years of hope deferred and pain :
Sad supplemental trophy of the war,
Borne through the wilds to western lands afar
At last by Wabash stream, a willing slave,
She grew an Indian squaw of Indian brave :
No more remembered Susquehanna's tide ;

1 Frances Slocum, named by her captors Maconaqua

Her dusky brood around her rose in pride.
And yet strange visions o'er her soul would stray,
Delicious glimpses of an earlier day ;
Till, when long years had past, her kinsmen came,
Traced the old features, called her by her name ;
Back rushed the past with overwhelming tide ;
Once more she stands on Susquehanna's side ;
Beholds as in a dream her mother's face,
As once it shimmered in a last embrace.

'Tis passing strange : We read her story now,
Poor Maconaqua, with her furrowed brow,
The lonely wigwam by the prairie broad,
No lingering memory of her mother's God !
We cross the vale of intervening years,
And give her yet the tribute of our tears.

A hundred years ! how changed the scene to-day !
Nature still smiles, though man and art decay ;
Industrial science waves her magic wand,
And wealth and comfort crown the happy land.
Where once the settler tilled his little field,
The yawning depths a richer treasure yield,
And genii of the mine, with clang and tramp,
Show greater marvels than Aladdin's lamp ;
Turn earth to ashes, with a glory bright,
And fill our homes with genial warmth and light.

A hundred years ! where your great grandsires bled
Their honored record still with pride is read ;
Their children's children still possess the soil
Which yielded scant subsistence to their toil.
Where Butler faced the fearful battle shock,
Your Butlers vindicate the proud old stock.
Here, where Fort Jenkins frowned upon the plain,
An heir of Jenkins keeps the old domain ; [1]
With patriot zeal and antiquarian taste,
Gathers rare relics of the battle waste.
Dorrance,[2] at home, looks out upon the flood
Once crimson with his brave ancestral blood ;
While Denisons and Bennets proudly tell
How in those days their fathers fought and fell.
Blame not the poet that he may not name
All who illumine this bright roll of fame.

1 Steuben Jenkins, Esq.

2 Col. Charles Dorrance, grandson of Lieut Col. George Dorrance, who fell in the battle.

One man there was, allied to many there :
Ever in Wyoming to memory dear.
Fashioned in Nature's best and stateliest mould,
A frame of iron and a heart of gold,—
Knightly but gentle, lofty but devout :
Ever for truth his manly voice rang out ;
When this fair vale of Wyoming is sung,
His noble life is theme for every tongue :
When native worth and honor are proclaimed,
Let John N. Conyngham be proudly named.[1]

And thou, O friend of youth's illusive hour,
Illusive in all else save friendship's power,
Shall we forget how, on the hostile plains,
Where Montezuma's spirit yet complains,
We read our Greek, or sang our roundelays,
On weary march, or by the camp-fire's blaze?
Time hath wrought changes ; but with steadfast truth
Thou hast well kept the promise of thy youth ;
An upright judge, a patriot soldier true,
O man of arts and arms, I sing to you !
Well pleased if, when another century end,
The poet shall be known as Dana's friend.[2]

A hundred years ! the seed our fathers sowed
Grew to rich verdure, watered by their blood ;
A century plant ! by Heaven's peculiar grace
It stands to-day a glory in its place :
And now the unsealed petals wide expand,
To send rich perfume through the smiling land !

A hundred years, fair town, whose stones were laid
When Wilkes endured and generous Barre plead,
Proud is thy lot to-day ! A Nation comes [3]
To the glad welcome of thy river homes !
As long as rolls bright Susquehanna's wave,
Be thou proud warder of the patriot's grave !

1 Judge John Nesbit Conyngham was for thirty years on the bench of Luzerne County as President Judge. He married Miss Butler, a grand daughter of Col. Zebulon Butler.

2 Edmund L. Dana, a Captain of Pennsylvania Volunteers in the Mexican war; Colonel of the 143d Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers during the war of the Rebellion; Brevet Brigadier-General. Additional Law Judge of Luzerne county. He is the great-grandson of Adjutant Anderson Dana, who fell in the Massacre.

3 The President of the United States, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Attorney-general, the Govenor of the State and his staff, were present at this celebration

Peace be for aye beneath thy mountain caves,
And plenty fill thee with her bursting sheaves!

And thou, my country! land of every clime,
From flowery tropic to the Arctic rime,
Land of the pomp of streams and mountain pride;
Land of the ocean borders, stretching wide;
Land of our flag, bright galaxy of stars
In peace a guide, a meteor in wars;
Whose stripes, by danger's tempest wide unfurled,
Stream proud defiance to the unfriendly world;
Fair land, where honest toil has meed and worth,
And man is man, whate'er his rank and birth;
Centennial land, for thee our prayers ascend!
God keeps thee ever until Time shall end!
While flocking to thy light the peoples come
To share thy plenty and to find a home.

In Faith's perspective glass I see revealed
A larger harvest in a wider field.
O let us labor in this fruitful ground,
That when a hundred years shall run their round,
Treading the noble path our fathers trod,
Our motto — "Love to man and love to God" —
Our harvest home, by future poet told,
Shall be *Centennial fruit — a hundred fold*!

My task is done; the struggling muse takes flight
To higher regions of empyreal light;
Yet, as her form in air grows dim,
She leaves to future bard this parting hymn:

Sing of our sires' heroic deeds,
A spirit-stirring song;
Let hill, and stream, and fertile meads
The grateful sound prolong.

Here, where upon this hallowed land,
They fell before their foes,
Here, where wild nature 'neath their hand
Has blossomed with the rose:

Here, where above their honored dust
Their memory still is bright,
A beacon-ray to guide the just
Onward to perfect light;

Here tell again in loftier strain
Their virtues and their fame,
Till every ear shall thrill to hear
Each loved ancestral name.

O Thou, who wast our fathers' God
In danger's darksome hour,
Still be their children's sure abode,
Their refuge and their tower!

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The reading of the foregoing poem was listened to with marked attention by all of the vast audience within sound of the author's voice, and at its conclusion he was the happy recipient of some flattering congratulations for his splendid literary effort, heartily and honestly bestowed by the President of the United States, and members of his Cabinet, who were delighted auditors on the speaker's stand.

Yours Very Truly
Reuben Hankins

# HISTORICAL ADDRESS,

By Steuben Jenkins Esq.

There is no event of equal magnitude, that occupies so large and conspicuous a place ; none that has made the scene of its enactment so celebrated in history and song, as that of the Battle of Wyoming, with its attendant massacre and conflagration ; none that has so largely called forth the execrations of mankind against the one side, and their feelings of compassion and sympathy for the other.

We are met to day to recount the scenes enacted here on this ground just one hundred years ago, and to commemorate the valor and patriotism of that little band of heroes who went forth to stay the march of the ruthless invaders of their soil and save their families, their homes, their flocks and their harvests from havoc and destruction.

They were not soldiers, trained and inured to martial service, well armed and equipped for the fray. They had no great commander with an army of veterans, going forth conquering and to conquer ; to sate his mad ambition or wreak his vengeance upon an innocent, unoffending people. There was no one among them who possessed an absolute command. They were principally old men and boys unfit for the active and arduous duties of the field ; who, from inefficiency had remained at home, while the young men, better fitted for those duties, were serving in the ranks of our country's defenders in a distant field.

It was no war of ambition, of plunder, or of revenge on their part; it was to save themselves and their families from butchery, their homes from the torch of the incendiary, their flocks and herds from being slaughtered or driven off, their harvests from being destroyed, and their liberty from being overthrown.

We cannot talk or judge of them as soldiers, for soldiers they were not. We cannot talk of them as an army, for an army they were not. They were simply a hasty gathering of a rural settlement for defense against their invaders. As such I shall speak of them to day. As such we must judge of their acts.

To more fully understand the position of affairs on that terrible day and night of carnage, devastation and blood, go back with me in the history of the Valley for one hundred years; for it is of that period of its history we are met here to-day to talk and reflect. We find quite a different state of affairs existing here then, from that which surrounds us here to-day.

Instead of cities and towns, the abodes of wealth, of luxury and ease, we see only a little hamlet or two, with log houses scattered here and there, occupied by busy toilers winning from the willing earth in the sweat of their brows, the means of subsistence. Instead of cleared fields, stretching from mountain top to mountain top, dotted with fine farm houses, palatial in size and in grandeur of adornment, surrounded with large fields, finely fenced and subdued to the wish of the cultivator; we find an almost forest waste, with here and there only a cleared spot, encumbered with stumps and brush, mostly bordering on the river.

Instead of the screech of the locomotive, as it wheels its course through the valley at more than race horse speed; communicating and exchanging the interests and business of the whole country, and bearing a share of the commerce of the world to and fro through it; was heard the howl of voracious wolves, the screech of the stealthy

panther, and the frightful yell of the more stealthy and blood-thirsty Indian savage, bearing terror, desolation and death to the unguarded settler.

Their communications with the outer world, instead of being borne upon the lightning's rapid wing, instantaneously throughout the whole continent, were borne on horseback or on foot, through an unbroken forest, without roads or bridges; and it was a five or six days' journey out, and as many to return again, and then only the nearest and feeblest sttlements were reached.

In passing from house to house through the settlement, instead of hearing the organ or the piano swelling forth their rich strains of harmony, or the hum and clatter of machinery gathering the abundant harvest and preparing it for the market, we hear the hum of the spinning-wheel, the bang of the loom, whack of the thrashing flail, the stroke of the felling axe, the grinding of grain with the pestle and morter.

The people were few and scattered, covering a hundred miles up and down the Susquehanna, limited in means and resources, and yet, with brave and true hearts, they battled manfully against the toils, the sufferings, the privations and dangers that pressed them on every side. Such was the condition of the settlement here, one hundred years ago.

And who were those people thus isolated from the rest of the civilized world, the pioneers of a new colony, struggling with poverty and want, battling with foes without and foes within, and yet maintaining their ground amidst all their dangers, afflictions and sufferings?

They were principally born and raised in the land of "steady habits;" were the sons and daughters of the honest yeomanry of Connecticut and Rhode Island; not the refuse of towns, not gold hunters or greedy speculators, or reckless adventurers, but the young, the energetic and enterprising part of a rural population, whose parents were ministers, deacons, and members of Evangelical

churches. Those from Rhode Island were mostly Quakers, or Friends. They came to fell the forest, cultivate the land, and establish a society on the banks of the beautiful Susquehanna, where, under a more genial sun, and on a more fertile soil, they might enjoy all the privileges of their ancestors, and transmit to their posterity homes possessing all the characteristic excellencies of those of New England. They were joined in this enterprise by a company of settlers from Dauphin and Lebanon counties, of Presbyterian stock, who settled the town of Hanover. These were chiefly Scotch-Irish and German.

They brought the gospel and the gospel minister with them and provided liberally for their support. They established schools and made ample provisions for education throughout the settlement, laying broad and deep the foundations for a religious, intellectual and moral community. Such were the sources whence came the people whose story we are telling, such the people themselves. The labors, the sufferings, the dangers and deaths they endured in preparing the ground and sowing the seeds of future prosperity and greatness for their descendants accomplished their work, and have given, not alone to their descendants, but to hundreds of thousands from all parts of the civilized world, abundant cause for gratitude and joy. The soil they hallowed with their blood yields to us a bountiful supply of all that can gladden the heart and make life happy.

With these introductory remarks I will at once enter upon the history of the events of the day we have met to commemorate, and yet, to treat of them properly, it becomes necessary to detail, to some extent, the preceeding history of the times which wrought out these events and their sad termination.

The country was engaged in a great and earnest struggle for freedom from the exactions and tyranny of British government. It was the common cause of all the colonies, and nowhere was that cause more earnestly espoused

and more ardently sustained than here, at Wyoming. In addition to this cause for anxiety and disquiet among the settlers, another existed, which had, up to this time, given them more trouble and been productive of greater alarm. This was the struggle with the Penn propietors, and those claiming under them, for the supremacy in government, and the right of soil where they inhabited.

Although this struggle had much to do in framing the destiny of the people here, and, in fact, in bringing the great evils about, that wrought ruin, desolation and death to the settlers, there is no occasion to go into a history of that struggle, beyond a statement of its grounds and what it may be necessary to mention in passing on in our narrative.

In 1620, Charles I., of England, granted to the Duke of Lenox, the Earl of Warwick, and others, under the name of "The Council of Plymouth." "All that part of America lying and being in breadth from forty degrees of north latitude to the forty eighth, inclusively, and in breadth throughout the main lands from sea to sea."

Robert, Earl of Warwick, in 1630, obtained from the "Council at Plymouth," and the next year, 1631, having obtained confirmation of his title, by royal patent from Charles I., conveyed to Lord Say and Seal, Lord Brook, and others, "All that part of New England, in America, between the fortieth and forty third degrees of north latitude, from Narraganset river on the east, to the South sea on the west, throughout the main lands."

This grant was confirmed by royal patent from Charles II., on the 20th of April, 1662, from Narraganset bay on the east to the South sea on the west. The Pacific ocean at that time was known as the South sea. Wyoming lies within these bounds.

On the 4th of March, 1681, Charles II., by royal charter, granted to William Penn, as Proprietary and Governor, the territory embraced in the present State of Pennsylvania, which covered one degree of latitude of the same territory previously granted by him to the proprietors of the New England grant. The New England settlers claimed Wyoming under the grant of 1662; the Pennamites claimed it under the grant of 1681, from the same King. This was the ground of controversy,

and out of this controversy, and from the efforts made on both sides to effect a settlement of the disputed territory, each side to the exclusion of the other, the struggle between the claimants arose.

This struggle existed at the first inception of the Revolutionary contest, and was raging with great fierceness when the oppressive acts of Great Britain, and the battles of Concord and Lexington called off the thoughts of the settlers from their own petty conflict, where a few acres of land only, were involved, to that mighty conflict in which their liberties and the fate of empires were swinging in the balance.

Accordingly, on the first of August, 1775, immediately on receiving the news of those battles, the settlers assembled in town meeting and offered terms of compromise and accommodation to the Pennsylvania claimants, during the great struggle with the common enemy.

The proceedings of that town meeting are entered on their records as follows :

"At a meeting of the proprietors and settlers of ye town of Westmoreland," (this was the town name by which Wyoming was then known) "legally warned and held August 1, 1775.

Mr. John Jenkins was chosen Moderator for ye work of ye day.

Voted, That this town does now vote that they will strictly observe and follow ye rules and regulations of ye Honorable Continental Congress, now sitting in Philadelphia.

Resolved, by this town, that they are willing to make any accommodations with ye Pennsylvania party that shall conduce to ye best good of ye whole, not infringing on the property of any person, and come in common cause of Liberty in ye defense of America, and that we will amicably give them ye offer of joining in ye proposals as soon as may be.

At a meeting held by adjournment, August the 8th, 1775.

Voted, That this this town has but of late been incorporated and invested with the privileges of the law, both civil and military, and now in a capacity of acting in conjunction with our neighboring towns, within this and the other colonies, in opposing ye late measures adopted by Parliament to enslave America ; also, this town having taken into consideration the late plan adopted by Parliament, of enforcing their several oppressive and unconstitutional acts of depriving us of our property, and of binding us in all cases, without exception, whether we consent or not, is considered by us highly injurious to American or English freedom ; therefore, we do consent to and acquiesce in the late proceedings and advice of the Continental Congress, and do rejoice that those

measures are adopted and so universally received throughout the continent, and in conformity to the eleventh article of the association, we do now appoint a committee to attentively observe the conduct of all persons within this town,d touching the rules and regulations prescribed by the Honorable Continental Congress, AND WILL UNANIMOUSLY JOIN OUR BRETHREN IN AMERICA IN THE COMMON CAUSE OF DEFENDING OUR LIBERTY.

Voted, That Mr. John Jenkins, Joseph Sluman, Esq., Nathan Denison, Esq., Mr. Obadiah Gore, Jr., and Lieutenant William Buck, be chosen a committee of correspondence for ye town of Westmoreland.

Voted, That Jonathan Fitch, Mr. Anderson Dana, Capt. Wm. McKarrachen, Mr. Caleb Spencer, Capt. Samuel Ransom, Lieut. George Dorrance, Mr. Asahel Buck, Mr. Stephen Harding, Mr. John Jenkins, Jr., Mr. Barilla Tyler, Jr., Mr. Elijah Witer, Mr. Nathan Kingsley, Mr. John Secord, and Mr. Robert Carr, be chosen a committee of inspection for ye town of Westmoreland."

The resolutions passed at both these town meetings were drawn by their Moderator, and the meetings were called and held at his suggestion.

These proceedings cast the die for the settlers of Wyoming. They now girded their loins and immediately commenced putting themselves in readiness to meet the responsibilities of their position.

These terms of compromise, thus offered by the settlers to the Pennsylvania claimants, were made known to them, and also to Congress. On the 4th of November following, Congress passed a resolution recommending the Pennsylvania claimants to accept of the terms proposed. Congress was supposed to speak the sentiments of the Pennsylvania party, and it was presumed that they would be governed in their action by its recommendations, and hence the settlers neither suspected nor feared any further difficulty in that direction. It appears, however, that the Pennsylvania party, supposing that the settlers, relying on the just recommendations of Congress, would have all their suspicions lulled to rest, and would be unprepared to meet and successfully combat a stealthy attack, set in motion a force of seven hundred men to make a secret expedition against Wyoming. Intelligence of this movement being received in Philadelphia, Congress immediately, on the 20th of December, 1775, resolved, "that it is the opinion of this Congress, and it

is accordingly recommended, that the contending parties immediately cease all hostilities, and avoid every appearance of force until the dispute can be legally decided, etc."

These recommendations, however wise and just, were all unheeded by the highwayman, Plunket, who had charge of the expedition. He was thirsting for plunder, and was not to be choked off in this way. With the order of the Governor of Pennsylvania in his pocket, he hastened his movement "to expel the Connecticut settlers from Wyoming." Well supplied with arms, provisions and military stores, loaded on a large boat, he marched with his force, called a "posse," from Fort Augusta, (Sunbury,) in the early part of December, accompanied by William Cook, Sheriff of Northumberland county, to give the movement the appearance of a civil proceeding.

The progress of his force was necessarily regulated by the movement of the boat containing their provisions and stores, and as the boat had to be propelled against the current, very much impeded by floating ice, the expedition did not reach Nanticoke falls, at the lower end of the Valley, until the 24th of December. Here Plunket left his boat, loaded his men with provisions and amunition, and started on foot for an attack upon the settlements above. Their route lay on the west side of the river. They had not proceeded a mile when they observed before them a ridge of rocks, presenting to them a precipitous front, rising from a foot or two high near the river, to a point 800 feet high on the mountain. Behind defenses built on this ridge, were posted the settlers, to the number of about 300, waiting the advance of Plunket. Each side had skirmishers out, and considerable skirmishing was done, in which some were killed on both sides. As Plunket approached, the settlers arose and discharged a volley of musketry which threw Plunket's force into disorder, and it at once retreated. An ex-

amination of this natural rampart shewed it to be impregnable, and the expedition seemed utterly thwarted. Plunket, however, fell back on his boat, and taking a batteau which he had brought with him, commenced conveying his troops across the river.

The settlers, foreseeing that some move of this kind might be made, had stationed men there under Lieutenant Stewart to prevent it. As the boat neared the shore it was fired into and one man killed, when the others, including Plunket, lay down flat in the boat and suffered it to float down the river over the falls. The troops on the western shore discharged a volley into the bushes whence the firing proceeded and killed one of the settlers named Brown. Plunket at once retreated and abandoned his enterprise.

At a town meeting held March 10, 1776:

"Voted, That the first man that shall make fifty weight of good saltpeter, in this town, shall be entitled to a bounty of ten pounds lawful money, to be paid out of the town treasury."

Mrs. Bethiah Jenkins, wife of Lieutenant John Jenkins, says the women took up their floors, dug out the earth, put it in casks, and ran water through it, as ashes are leached. They then took ashes, in another cask, and made lye, mixed the water from the earth with the lye, boiled it, set it out to cool, and the saltpeter rose to the surface. Charcoal and suphur were then pounded and mixed with the saltpeter, and powder was thus produced for the public defense.—Miner, p. 212."

John Jenkins, representative from Wyoming to the Connecticut Assembly, at May sessions, 1776, obtained liberty to erect a powder mill at Westmoreland.

At the first news of the conflict at Concord and Lexington many of the young men of Wyoming hastened to join the colonial forces, near Boston, to resist the encroachments of the British government and maintain their liberties, and some of them arrived in time to take part and fall in the battle of Bunker Hill.

Later, and during the winter of 1775-6, a number removed their families back to Connecticut, and thence proceeded to join the army under Washington.

Col. Wisner, of Orange county, New York, visited the

Valley for the purpose of obtaining recruits. Lieut. Obadiah Gore, with twenty or thirty others, marched under Wisner to the field of conflict.

On the 4th of July, 1776, Congress, after due deliberation, declared the Colonies independent of the British crown.

At a town meeting held at Wilkes-Barre, August 24, 1776, Col. Zebulon Butler, Moderator for ye work of ye day:

"Voted, As the opinion of this meeting, that it now becomes necessary for the inhabitants of this town to erect suitable forts, as a defence against our common enemy.

That this meeting do recommend it to the people, to proceed forthwith in building said forts, WITHOUT EITHER FEE OR REWARD FROM YE TOWN."

In pursuance of this vote, John Jenkins, Stephen Harding, the Gardners, their relatives, with their friends, proceeded to build a stockade around the house of John Jenkins, which was called "Jenkins' Fort." This was in Exeter township, now West Pittston, about ten or twelve rods above the northwest end of the Pittston ferry bridge.

Elisha Scovell and some other inhabitants of Exeter township, joined with the Wintermutes, the Van Alstynes, and others, from Montague township, Sussex county, New Jersey, in building a fort a mile or more below, on the brow of the plain, where a fine spring flowed from the foot of the hill forming the plain, which was named "Wintermute Fort."

The inhabitants of Kingston erected a fort, an acre or more in extent, on the west bank of the Susquehanna, in that township, on the town plot, near the centre of the town, which was named "Forty Fort," from the fact that the township was originally settled by forty proprietors and divided equally among them.

Upper Wilkesbarre had its fort just above the mouth of Mill Creek, built to guard and control the mills erected on that stream, called "Wilkesbarre Fort."

There was a fort in the town plot of Wilkesbarre, situate on the river bank just below South street, called "Wyoming Fort."

The inhabitants of Hanover erected a block-house on the bank of the river, some three miles below Wilkesbarre, called "Stewart' Block-house." Shawnee, or Plymouth, had only a pretence for a fort.

Besides these was the stockade at Pittston, on the east side of the a river, nearly oppsite Jenkins Fort. This was a place of some strength and importance. The people of Pittston and its neighborhood all sought protection within its ample space and behind its rugged log stuctures.

While these proceedings were being had at Wyoming, Congress had her attention turned to that locality, as appears by the following proceedings of that body :

"Friday, August 23, 1776. Resolved, That two companies, on the Continental establishment, be raised in the town of Westmoreland, and *stationed in proper places for the defence of the inhabitants of said town, and parts adjacent*, till further order of Congress ; the commissioned officers of the said two companies to be immediately appointed by Congress.

That the pay of the men to be raised as aforesaid, commence when they are armed and mustered, and that they be liable to serve in any part of the United States, when ordered by Congress

That the said troops be enlisted to serve during the war, unless sooner discharged by Congress."

August 26th Congress proceeded to the election of sundry officers, when Robert Durkee and Samuel Ransom were elected Captains of the two companies ordered to be raised in the town of Westmoreland ; James Welles and Perrin Ross, First Lieutenants ; Asahel Buck and Simon Spaulding, Second Lieutenants, and Herman Swift and Matthias Hollenback, Ensigns of said companies.

Early in September information was received of the resolutions of Congress, and rendezvous for the enlistment of men on the terms proposed, were opened by Captain Durkee on the east, and Captain Ransom on the west side of the Susquehanna.

These companies of Durkee and Ransom had been already in existence for some time, and had tendered their services to Congress, but they had not their full quota, as required, and some little delay was necessary that the requisite number might be raised. Some change in the offi-

cers was made, Lieut. Buck resigned his position, and John Jenkins, Jr., was appointed in his place.

On the 17th of September the two companies completed their quota and were mustered into the service of Congress, and were known as the "Two Independent Companies of Westmoreland."

At a meeting of the Connecticut Assembly, in October, 1776, an act was passed for raising a military company in the town of Westmoreland, to be a part of the 24th Regiment of Connecticut Militia, of which company Solomon Strong was appointed Captain; Obadiah Gore, Jr., First Lieut., and John Jenkins, Jr., Second Lieutenant.

As has been stated, Lieut. Gore had gone with a body of men, under Col. Wisner, and Lieut. Jenkins had joined Capt. Durkee's company, before their appointments were made by Connecticut.

We thus see how actively and earnestly our people had engaged in the struggle against their oppressors, and to maintain the declaration of Congress.

But the enmy were quite as active.

The American army, under Gen. Washington, pursued by an overwhelming force, was driven from Long Island, and, on the 15th of September 1776, New York was taken possession of by the British.

On the 16th, Fort Washington fell into their hands. Washington was retreating before them from post to post through New Jersey, and on the 8th of December he crossed the Delaware.

Congress immediately took measures to retire from Philadelphia to Baltimore.

At this moment of excitement and imminent peril, they resolved "That the two companies raised in the town of Westmoreland be ordered to join General Washington WITH ALL POSSIBLE EXPEDITION.

They then adjourned amidst the utmost trepidation, to meet in Baltimore on the 20th.

The two Wyoming companies promptly obeyed the or-

ders, and before the end of the year reached the place of rendezvous.

About three weeks afterward, or on the 20th of January, 1777, they took part in the battle of Millstone, and for their brave and gallant conduct on that occasion, received the thanks of their commanding officers, in general orders. They were afterward in the actions at Bound Brook, at Brandywine, at Germantown, and at Mud Fort. They were decimated by disease and the casualties of war, each company losing more than one-fourth of its original number.

The general campaign of 1777 opened amidst gloom and despondency for the American cause. Gen. Burgoyne, with a large and powerful army was descending from the north, along Lake Champlain and the Hudson, and Howe was moving up that river to join him, hoping thereby to sever the Eastern Colonies from the Middle and Southern. The Indians had, until this time, remained, in a great measure, quiescent, but they were seduced from their partial neutrality, and, on the 20th of June, at Boquet river, taken into full service of the British, by Gen. Burgoyne, and a market was opened by him for human scalps, at ten dollars each, that the Indians might gather in their work of desolation and death.

The Tories, also, were roused up to join with the British and Indians in their bloody work, and it now became evident that besides the regular warfare that might be expected from civilized nations, the frontiers would be everywhere overrun by the Indians and their more savage allies, the Tories, and would become one long line of conflagration, devastation, and death.

This state of affairs soon began to be felt at Wyoming, and a system of guards and scouts was established and regularly kept up among the settlers, to watch the Indian paths and the movements of the Tories,—a number of the latter living on the northern border of the settlement. It was soon ascertained that communication was

kept up by the Tories, residing at Tunkhannock and above, with the Indians about Tioga, Chemung, and Newtown.

In the fall of 1777, many of the settlers on the river above Wyoming, who moved into that locality from the Delaware, and from New York and lower Pennsylvania, under the auspices of the Pennsylvania government, began to give manifest evidence of their sympathy with the British crown, and of opposition to the American cause.

In October, Lieut. Asa Stevens was detailed on a scout by the committee of inspection, with nine men, who returned bringing in five suspected persons as prisoners. In the latter part of November, Lieut. John Jenkins, while out on a scout, at Wyalusing, was betrayed by the Tories into the hands of a body of Indians that infested that locality, and was taken by the latter to Fort Niagara. Upon report of this fact at Wyoming, Col. Nathan Denison, of the 24th Connecticut Regiment of militia, organized his little force and prepared to march into that locality. He reported that on the 20th of December, being informed that a band of Tories were forming on the north and westward of said town of Westmoreland, in order to stir up the Indians of Tioga to join the said Tories and kill and destroy the inhabitants of Connecticut, he ordered part of his regiment to be immediately equipped and marched to suppress the conspirators. The party marched about 80 miles up the river and took several Tories, (about 30,) and happily contented the Tioga Indians, and entirely disbanded the conspirators. Eighteen of these prisoners were sent to Connecticut, where "they were received and treated as prisoners of war, having been taken in arms against the United States."—See the War of the Revolution, p. 313–600.

About the 13th of February, 1778, Amos York and Lemuel Fitch were taken prisoners from the same locality, and hurried off to Niagara. Richard Fitzgerald was captured at the same time, but being an old man, they discharged him.

The prisoners, captured by the Indians and Tories, were kept at Niagara all winter, among a camp of British, Indians and Tories, of the most brutal and degraded character. Many of the latter were from the Susquehanna, above Wyoming, and hence bore a particular enmity to the prisoners, who, from this cause, suffered many hardships and injuries from the hands of their captors and keepers.

The force wintering at Niagara had, a great part of it at least, been with Gen. St. Leger, in his attack on Fort Schuyler, in August previous, and, in consequence of their defeat there by the American forces, under Col. Gansevoort, were greatly exasperated, and for this reason, were exceedingly venomous and cruel in their treatment of the prisoners in their charge.

They received neither clothes, shoes, blankets, shelter nor fire, were kept starved for provisions—and what they received was of the worst kind, such as spoilt flour, biscuit full of maggots and mouldy. The Indians would crowd around them with knives in their hands, and feel of them, to know who was fattest. They dragged one of the prisoners out of the guard, with the most lamentable cries, tortured him for a long time, and both the Indians and the Tories said they ate him, as it appears they did another on an Island in Lake Ontario.

De Veaux says of this terrible place—

"Niagara was the headquarters of all that was barbarous, unrelenting and cruel. There were congregated the leaders and chiefs of those bands of murderers and miscreants who carried death and destruction into the remote American settlements. There civilized Europe revelled with savage America, and ladies of education and refinement mingled in the society of those who only distinction was to wield the tomahawk and the scalping-knife. There were the squaws of the forest raised to eminence, and the most unholy alliances between them and officers of the highest rank smiled upon and countenanced. There in this stronghold, like a nest of vultures, securely, for seven years, they sallied forth and preyed upon the distant settlements of the Mohawk and Susquehanna Valleys. It was the depot of their plunder; there they planned their forays, and there they returned to feast until the time for action should come again."

It was amid such people and such scenes as these that our prisoners spent the winter, and of which they each

and all suffered their full share. Leaving our prisoners here for the winter, let us see how affairs were progressing at Wyoming.

We have learned, as has been already stated, that nearly all the able bodied men were away in the service of their country. The remaining population, in dread of the savages and their allies, were building six forts, or stockades, requiring great labor, and "without fee or reward." The whole available force was formed into train-bands, guards, scouts, &c., and in constant active service. The small-pox pestilence was in every district, and no remedy or means then known, could arrest its spread or stay its virulence.

"At a town meeting, legally warned, holden December 30, 1777.

John Jenkins was chosen Moderator for ye work of ye day.

Voted, by this town, That the Committee of Inspection be empowered to supply the sogers' wives and the sogers' widows, and their families, with the necessaries of life."

Miner says of this vote—

"Let it be engraved on plates of silver! Let it be printed in letters of gold! Challenge Rome, in her Republican glory, or Greece, in her Democratic pride, to produce, circumstances considered, an act more generous or noble!

Justice and gratitude demand a tribute to the praiseworthy spirit of the wives and daughters of Wyoming. While their husbands and fathers were away on public duty, they cheerfully assumed a large portion of the labor which females could do. They assisted to plant, made the hay, husked and garnered the corn and gathered the harvest. They thrashed the wheat, or shelled the corn, and ground it in mortars with pestles, or putting it in a bag across a horse, would get on top, and taking the youngest child in their arms, would thus convey it to the nearest mill, sometimes a distance of ten miles, waiting till it was ground, that they might have bread for their children on their return home."—Miner, p. 212."

The year 1776 brought great distrust and fear to the frontiers generally, but particularly to Wyoming. The surrender of Burgoyne at Saratoga had left the British without sufficient available force in America to carry on a regular campaign for that year, and, as the war was to be continued, the only resource left to the British government and her commanders, was to employ the Indians and Tories almost exclusively, in carrying on a war of desolation on the frontier. This was their de-

clared policy, and it was at once suspected and feared that Wyoming would be among the first to be attacked, for none were so hated and exposed as the people on the Susquehanna. They had been among the first to declare against British usurpations, and had been the most active and earnest in supplying men and means to support that declaration.

The position was known to be, in a measure, defenseless, and far removed from immediate support, and their situation seemed to invite rather than repel the design of an invasion. A portion of the enemy, particularly the Tories who had settled up the river under the Proprietary government, were exasperated by the efforts of the people in the cause of independence, and their careful watchfulness of the movements of all not co-operating with them, and especially by the arrest of some of their number, who had betrayed certain of them and delivered them into the hands of the enemy, and it was strongly suspected that they would incite a movement against Wyoming, if it were possible to do so.

It was known early in the spring of 1778, that a large force was collecting at Niagara, for the purpose of laying waste the frontiers of Pennsylvania, Virginia and New York; and as early as February, General Schuyler wrote to Congress to inform them that such was his belief. In March he wrote again to Congress saying:

"A number of Mowhawks, and many of the Onondagoes, Cayugas, and Senecas, will commence hostilities against us as soon as they can. It would be prudent, therefore early to take measures to carry the war into their country. It would require no greater body of troops to destroy their towns than to protect the frontier inhabitants."

In this state of affairs, the people of the frontiers appealed to Congress for forces for their protection. The people of Wyoming in particular, represented to Congress the threatning situation of their locality, and made an earnest appeal for aid. Moved by their entreaties, Congress came to the rescue of Wyoming, in the following remarkable resolution:

"March 10, 1778. Resolved, That one full company of foot be raised in the town of Westmoreland, on the east branch of the Susquehanna, for the protection of the said town and the settlements on the frontier in the neighborhood thereof, against the Indians and the enemies of these States; the said company to be enlisted to serve one year from the time of their enlisting, unless sooner discharged by Congress; and that the said company find their own arms, accoutrements and blankets." Journal of Congress, vol. iv, p. 113.

It would not be difficult to estimate just how much this resolution of Congress added to the effective force at Wyoming. It was equivalent to a suggestion of this sort: Wyoming has appealed to Congress for help. She needs help, undoubtedly. Let her help herself. She has the permission of Congress to do so; provided she builds her own forts, and furnishes "her own arms, accoutrements and blankets," and defends her settlements on the frontier in her neighborhood.

If there was ever a case in which the asking for bread and receiving a stone was exhibited in all its enormity and ungratefulness, more than in this, history has failed to record it.

This fact will stand out more prominently when it is understood that the Wyoming people had exhausted all their means and force, available for active service, in fitting up and sending out the companies of Durkee and Ransom, in addition to those who had gone back to Connecticut and entered the service there, and those who had, under Lieut. Gore, joined Col Wisner's regiment.

This astonishing magnanimity of Congress was not satisfactory to the people of Wyoming. Having received intelligence of a meditated attack upon them, they again informed Congress—that same Congress—of the threatning danger, and their exposed and defenseless position, and praved that the two Wyoming companies of Durkee and Ransom might be returned home, to guard and protect them through the impending peril. They felt that there should be no difficulty about this demand being granted, as those companies had been raised for the express purpose of defending their homes,

and by the resolution of Congress, were to be "stationed in proper places, for the defense of the inhabitants of said town and parts adjacent."

When called upon, however, to go on the distant service of the Republic, in an hour of peril, and leave their homes defenseless, they marched with the utmost alacrity, not a murmur was heard, for every man felt that the case was one of urgency and imperious necessity, and not one of them, or those they left defenseless behind, entertained a doubt but that the agreement, "to be stationed in proper places, to defend their homes,' would be religiously observed, and, when occasion required, they would be ordered back to the Valley.

But there was undoubtedly an influence at work on Congress, looking more to private advantage than public good, whose purpose would be better subserved by the destruction of the settlement at Wyoming, than by its preservation. That influence prevailed, and Wyoming was left to the fate that they knew so immediately impended over her devoted people.

A few straggling Indians and Tories, lurking about the settlement, pretending to be friendly, had been closely watched by the settlers, and they had become fully satisfied that the presence of these strangers boded no good, but that their designs were evil, and mischief was meditated for Wyoming.

In the midst of the fear, the doubt, and uncertainty that prevailed among the people, Lieut John Jenkins appeared upon the scene, having escaped from his captors and returned home. He, with York and Fitch, had been taken by the Indians early in April to Montreal, where the British authorities discharged York and Fitch, they not having been found in arms, were not considered as properly prisoners of war. They were put on board British transports, to be conveyed to some point in New England, for release. Fitch died of fever on the voyage; York survived until he reached the residence of his fath-

in-law, Manassah Miner, in Voluntown, Conn., where he was taken sick and, died eleven days before his family reached there, in their flight from Wyoming, after the massacre. He died believing that his family had all been cut off in that massacre, as they had been delayed on the way by sickness.

Lieut. Jenkins was taken by the Indians from Montreal to Albany, to be exchanged for an Indian chief who was a prisoner at that place, in the hands of the Americans. When the party arrived at Albany, the chief, for whom he was to be exchanged, had died of the small-pox. They refused to exchange him for any other prisoner, but retained him, to take him to Seneca Castle, to be disposed of by the Grand Council of the nation, which they expected would be gathered at that place, by the time they should arrive there.

On the fourth night after the party left Albany, the prisoner, by the aid of a young chief, with whom a strong friendship had existed from the first period of his captivity, made his escape, and arrived at home on the 2d of June.

He brought information that the great mass of the Tories from up the river had wintered at Niagara with the Indians and British, that they had been insolent and abusive, had threatened to return in the spring, bring the Indians with them, drive the settlers off, and take possession of the country themselves; that a plan of this sort had been concerted at Niagara before he left there. This was the first reliable information the settlers had received of the threatened invasion of Wyoming, although it was known, much earlier, that an invasion of the frontiers somewhere, was to be made from Niagara, by the combined force of British, Indians and Tories that had wintered in that locality, and from the conduct of the straggling Tories and Indians, to which we have alluded, it was strongly suspected that Wyoming and its neighborhood would be the objective point.

The story of Lieut. Jenkins confirmed the worst sus-

picions of the settlers, and they became aroused to the danger of their situation.

An express was immediately sent to Washington and Congress, to inform them of the certainty of the invasion, and to ask that the companies of Durkee and Ransom be immediately sent to Wyoming, together with such additional force as could be spared for the occasion.

Capt. Hewitt, who had been appointed to enlist the new company, under the resolution of Congress, which has been given, and who were to furnish their own "arms accoutrements and blankets," was immediately sent up the river on a scout.

On the 5th of June, there was an alarm from Indians, and six white men, Tories, coming in the neighborhood of Tunkhannock, about twenty-five miles up the river from Wyoming, and taking Elisha Wilcox, Pierce and some others prisoners, and robbing and plundering the inhabitants of the neighborhood.

News of this incursion was brought to the Valley on the night of the 6th, and on the 7th, although Sunday, the inhabitants set to work to complete and strengthen their fortifications.

On the 7th, there was an alarm from Shawnee. For a week or more after this, there appeared to be a lull in the storm at Wyoming, a calm, as often precedes a violent tempest, but it raged with great fierceness in other quarters.

The forces that wintered at Niagara and in Western New York, in pursuance of orders issued by Col. Guy Johnson, assembled at Kanadaseago, or Seneca Castle, early in May, and from this point sallied forth in divisions to carry on their hellish work. Although the objective point was Wyoming, yet they were to divide their forces into parties and attack different points, lay them waste, spread terror, consternation and death on every hand, that their ultimate destination might not be known, and no force of sufficient size to offer successful resist-

ance be concentrated against them; and by dividing their force and sending it into different localities, they would be the better able to learn the strength and direction of any force which might be sent to oppose them. Capt. Joseph Brandt, or Thayendenegea, with his Mohawks, some Senecas, Scoharries and Oquagas, went by way of the outlet of the Cayuga Lake and the head waters of the Mohawk, and arrived in the vicinity of Cherry Valley about the 25th, of May. His mission, with his destructives there, was to lay waste that place. He secreted them on Lady Hill, about a mile east of the fort, to await a favorable opportunity to strike the fatal blow, and slay or capture its occupants.

A company of boys happened to be training, for boys caught the martial spirit of the times, as Brandt, like the eagle from his eyrie, was looking down from his hiding place, upon the devoted hamlet, seeking his prey. Mistaking these miniature soldiers for armed men, he deferred the attack for a more favorable opportunity.

After killing Lieut. Wormwood, a promising young officer, from Palatine, who had left the fort but a few minutes before, on horseback, and taking Peter Sitz, his comrade, prisoner, Brandt directed his steps to Cobleskill. Sims' Scoharrie. p. 28. Border Warfare, p. 126.

On the 1st day of June, was fought the battle of Cobleskill. The Indian forces, commanded by Brandt, amounted to about three hundred and fifty. The American forces, commanded by Capts. Patrick and Brown, amounted to about fifty. The battle was mostly in the woods, and both parties fought in the Indian style, under cover of trees. Of the American force, twenty-two were slain and their scalps borne off in triumph, among them Capt. Patrick. Six were wounded and two made prisoners. The Indians had about an equal number killed.—Sims—Campbell—Stone, p. 353.

From here, Brandt, after committing a few further depredations in that quarter, led his forces to Tioga, where

he joined the main body of the army, marching to the invasion of Wyoming.

At the same time that Brandt started on his expedition, from Kanadaseago, Major John Butler, commonly called and known as Col. Butler, being at that time, however, only a Major, with the British and Tories, amounting to about four hundred, and a party of Indians, under Gucingerachton and Kayingwaurto, both Seneca chiefs, amounting to about four hundred, passed up Seneca Lake and proceeded to Chemung and Tioga, at which point Butler and Kayingwaurto engaged in preparing boats for transporting themselves and their baggage down the Susquehanna.

A considerable body of Indians, under Gucingerachton, were detached at Kanawaholee, or Newtown, and sent across the country to strike the West Branch of the Susquehanna and lay it waste, while the boats were being prepared, and Brandt should rejoin the main party with his forces.

Gucingerachton, with his party, arrived on the West Branch near the mouth of Bald Eagle creek, on the 16th of May, and at once commenced his work of death and desolation. He continued at this work, overrunning the whole line of the lower West Branch, until the 10th of June. He and his savage horde swept that whole region as with the besom of destruction, and the final catastrophe in the bloody work occured on this latter day.

Meginness says—

"This was indeed a bloody day. The savages glutted themselves with murder and plunder, and retired in triumph. A gloomy pall seemed to have fallen over the infant settlement, and weeping and wailing where heard on every hand. Children were murdered before their parents' eyes; husbands were compelled to witness the horrid deaths of their wives, and in turn, children were compelled to gaze upon the mangled bodies of their parents. Neither age, sex, nor condition were spared; the wails of helpless infants, the imploring cries of defenseless women, failed to awaken a chord of pity in the adamantine bosom of the tawny savage. He laughed their pitiful appeals to scorn, and with a fiendish grin of pleasure, plied the knife, and tore the reeking scalps from their heads."

"The harvest of scalps they reaped in these fields counts up to forty-five - add to these a large number of prisoners, and a vast amount of plunder, and we have a slight account of the work done.—Otzinachson, p. 211, etc.

It will be readily seen, from these facts, what the scope of the Indian warfare for 1778 embraced. The Whole frontier was aglow with fire, desolation and death, beneath the fagot, tomahawk, rifle and scalping-knife of the Indians, and their cruel and implacable allies, the British and Tories.

Our narrative now returns to Wyoming, for this is becoming the gathering point of all these scattered parties. A glance shows at once that the storm is gathering, dark and fearful, in that direction, boding death and destruction throughout all its borders.

On the 12th of June, William Crooks and Asa Budd went up the river to a place some two miles above Tunkhannock, on the west side of the river, formerly occupied by a Tory named John Secord, one of the committee of inspection appointed August 8, 1775, who had been absent at Niagara since the fall before. Crooks was fired upon by a party of Indians and killed.

On the 17th, a party of six men, from Jenkins' Fort, in two canoes, went up the river to observe the movements of the enemy. The party in the forward canoe landed about six miles below Tunkhannock, on the west side of the river, opposite LaGrange, or Osterhout, and ascended the bank, They saw an armed force of Indians and Tories running toward them. They gave the alarm, returned to their canoes, and endeavored to get behind an island to escape the fire of the enemy, which was being poured in upon them. The canoe, in which were Miner Robbins, Joel Phelps and Stephen Jenkins, was fired upon and Robbins killed and Phelps wounded. Jenkins escaped unhurt, although his paddle was shot through and shivered to pieces in his hands. In the party that fired upon the canoe was Elijah Phelps, the brother of Joel, and brother-in-law of Robbins.

Capt. Hewitt, with a scouting party, went up the river on the 25th, and returned on the 30th of June with news that they had discovered a large force of the enemy.

At Jenkins' Fort, the uppermost in the Valley, and but little over a mile above Wintermute Fort, there were gathered the families of the old patriots, John Jenkins, Esq. and Captain Stephen Harding, the Hadsalls, John Gardner, and others, distinguished for zeal in their country's cause. Not apprised of the contiguity of the savages, on the morning of the 30th of June, before Captain Hewitt's return, Benjamin Harding, Stukley Harding, Stephen Harding, Jr., John Gardner and a boy named Rogers, about eleven years of age, James Hadsall and his sons, James and John, the latter a boy, with his sons-in-law, Ebenezer Reynolds and Daniel Carr, together with Daniel Wallen and a negro, named Quocko, a servant of William Martin—twelve in all, went up the river about five or six miles, into Exeter, to their several labors, some of them, particularly Benjamin and Stukley Harding, taking their arms. The Hardings, with Gardner and the boy Rogers, worked in the cornfield of Stephen Harding, Jr.; the Hadsalls and the others, part in Hadsall's cornfield, on an island, part in his tanyard, close at hand, on the main land.

Towards evening, Michael Showers, or Shores, and Jacob Anguish, or Ankers, two well-known Tories, came to Stephen Harding's cornfield, and told them they might call in their sentries and they would stand guard for them. Suspecting them of treachery, and that danger threatened, Stephen went at once to get the horses and make for home. When the Tories saw what Stephen was doing, they left to give information to the Indians and Tories, who were not far off in a large body.

When Stephen returned with the horses, near to where he had left his brothers, he saw that they had quit work and passed on down the river towards a deer-lick. On the way down was a deep, narrow ravine, through

which a small brook found its way to the river. In this ravine, a body of Indians and Tories had concealed themselves, waiting their coming. This spot is in the neighborhood of the new Baptist meeting house, between that and the river. As the party was passing this point, the savages fired upon them, wounding both Benjamin and Stukley. They returned the fire, and then quite a contest ensued. The Indians rushed upon them with spears and tomahawks, and they clubbed their guns and fought bravely and furiously, resisting until they fell, pierced through with spears, and were hacked and cut to pieces with tomahawks. John Gardner was taken prisoner. Having no arms, he took no part in the fight.

That the Hardings fought bravely was attested by the enemy, as well as the terrible condition of their bodies when found. In the meantime, a party of the Indians had captured the elder James Hadsall, his son-in-law, Carr, and the negro, at the tannery, which was situated just above the mouth of the creek.

Those on the island came off in their canoes, and as they ascended the bank, a party of savages, lying in wait fired upon them, shooting James Hadsall down and wounding Reynolds, who fled with Wallen, to the woods, John Hadsall, the boy, remained behind fastening the canoe. Upon hearing the firing he plunged into a thicket of willows and drift that overhung the waters near by. The Indians, missing one from the party in the canoe, went to the river to search for him. One of them walked out on a log just over where he was hid, but did not discover him. He could see the Indian's eyes as he peered about to find him. After night set in, he ventured out of his hiding place, and made his way back to the fort, arriving after midnight. He was the first to arrive and bring news of the fate of his companions to their waiting, anxious friends.

The elder Hadsall, Gardner, Carr and the negro were taken up Sutton's creek about a mile or two, to what is

known as the Bailey farm, where Hadsall and the negro were put to death by the most insulting, lingering and excruciating tortures, giving a most delightful evening's entertainment to Major Butler and his demoniac crew; the Indians and Tories being the actors in the horrible drama, the Tories in particular displaying a lively relish in the performance of their several parts.

Stephen Harding, Jr., with the boy Rogers, Reynolds and Wallen, fled through the woods, and after wandering all night, succeeded in reaching the fort next morning.

Intelligence of this affair was at once communicated to all parts of the Valley, and the utmost alarm and consternation prevailed.

Col. Zebulon Butler, of the Continental army, then at home on leave, being solicited, assumed command of the settlers. On the 1st of July, he, Col. Nathan Denison, and Lieut. Colonel George Dorrance, with all the forces at command, at that time, marched from Forty Fort to Exeter, a distance of eleven miles, where the murder of the preceding day had been perpetrated, with the design of punishing the guilty parties.

The two Hardings were found where they had fallen; from appearance they must have contended to the last, for their arms and faces were much cut and several spearholes were made through their bodies. They were scalped and otherwise mutilated. Two Indians who were watching near the dead bodies, expecting that friends might come to take them away, and that they might obtain other victims, were shot—one where he sat, the other in the river, to which he had fled. Zebulon Marcy's rifle, it was supposed, killed one of them, and subsequently he was waylayed and hunted for several years; a brother of one of the Indians killed, swearing he would have revenge.

The bodies of the Hardings were brought down to Jenkins' Fort, washed and decently burried in the Jenkins' graveyard, near the fort, where Elisha Harding, Esq.

their brother, caused a stone to be erected to their memory, with this inscription :

"Sweet be the sleep of those who prefer liberty to slavery."

The borough of West Pittston has the distinguished honor of having these sacred relics repose within her bounds. They should be cherished and cared for by every true patriot. A fitting monument should be erected to mark their resting place.

John Gardner, taken at the time the Hardings were killed, was a husband, the father of five children, and a highly respectable man. On the morning of the 4th, his wife and children were permitted to see him. The interview was extremely affecting. He was chained to a log and near by lay a heavy pack of plunder which he was expected to carry. The last adieu was exchanged, and they parted to meet no more. When his captors were ready to go, they put a rope around his neck, placed the pack on his back, and led him off as they would a beast of burden. He held out until they arrived in the neighborhood of Geneva, N. Y., where exhausted by his journey, and crushed by the weight of his load, he fell to the earth, when he was handed over to the squaws, who tortured him to death. They piled up wood and brush about him, stuck him full of pine knots, set fire to them and thus ended his life.

Daniel Carr, a fellow prisoner, saw the remains the following day, and represented them as a sight to awaken the deepest pity.

The enemy, numbering about two hundred British Provincials, and about two hundred Tories, from Pennsylvania, New York and New Jersey, under the command of Major John Butler, and Capt. Caldwell, of Sir John Johnson's Royal Greens, and about five hundred Indians, commanded by Kayingwaurto, a Seneca chief, and Capt. Joseph Brandt, a Mohawk, descended the Susquehanna river in boats, and landed near the mouth of Bowman's Creek, where they remained some time

waiting for the West Branch party to join them. This party consisted, as before stated, of about two hundred Indians, under the command of Gucingerachton, a Seneca chief. After the junction of all the forces, numbering altogether about eleven hundred, they moved forward to the invasion of Wyoming. They left the largest of their boats, and with the lighter ones passed on down to the "Three Islands," five or six miles below, laying them up in Keeler's eddy, about fifteen miles from the Valley.

From this point they marched overland, and encamped on the evening of the 30th of June, on Sutton's Creek about two miles from where the Hardings were killed.

On the 1st of July, while the settlers were marching up the river to bring down the dead bodies of the Hardings, and if possible, chastise their murderers, the enemy were marching toward the Valley, by a route back of the mountain, which lay between them and the route the settlers took in marching up and returning. They arrived and encamped on the side of the mountain bounding the Valley on the north-west, at a point directly opposite Wintermute Fort. Parties from the enemy passed in and out of Wintermute Fort the same night. On the morning of the 2d, the gates of the fort were thrown wide open to the enemy, and possession taken by them. It was said that the inmates of the fort consisted chiefly of Tories, who treacherously surrendered it to the enemy. This became their headquarters while they remained in the Valley.

The evening of the 2d, a detachment, under the command of Capt. Caldwell, was sent to reduce Jenkins' fort. Originally, the garrison consisted of seventeen, mostly old men, six of whom, Miner Robbins, the two Hardings, two Hadsalls, and the negro were slain, and three made prisoners; two, Phelps and Reynolds, wounded; Samuel Morgan, sick, and two, lame, so that no means of resistance being left, the stockade capitulated on honorable terms.

During all this day the settlers were engaged gathering all the force they could command, with their women and children, at Forty Fort, and the other forts, chiefly the former, about four miles below Wintermute Fort.

It was a day of alarm, excitement and terror; a day of preparation, running to and fro, fleeing and seeking shelter from impending wrath and death.

Let us look at the position of affairs as they existed on the 3d of July, 1778.

The upper part of the Valley, on the west side of the river, was in the hands of the enemy, numbering 1,100 men well armed and equipped, thirsting for conquest and blood.

So complete and effective was their possession, that no person had been able to pass their lines to give information of either their numbers, position or purpose.

Jenkins' Fort, on the Susquehanna, just above the west end of the Pittston Ferry Bridge, was in their possession, having capitulated the day before, but possession had not been taken until this morning.

Wintermute Fort, situate on the bank of the plain, about a mile and a half below and about half a mile from the river, had been in their possession all the day before, and was used as their headquarters.

Forty Fort, some four miles further down the river, situate on the west bank of the Susquehanna river, was the largest and strongest fort in the Valley. Thither had fled all the people on the west side of the river, on the 1st and 2d, and this was to be the gathering point of the patriot band. The Wilkesbarre and Pittston Forts were the gathering points for the people in their immediate neighborhood.

The forces, such as they were, were distributed throughout the Valley somewhat as follows :

The Kingston company, commanded by Capt. Aholiab Buck, numbering about forty men, was at Forty Fort.

The Shawnee company, commanded by Capt. Asaph Whittlesey, numbering about forty-four men, was at Forty Fort

The Hanover company, commanded by Capt. Wm. McKarrachen, numbering about thirty, was at home, in Hanover.

The upper Wilkesbarre company, commanded by Capt. Rezin Geer, numbering about thirty men, was at Wilkesbarre.

The lower Wilkesbarre company, comanded by Capt James Bidlack, Jr., numbering about thirty-eight men, was at Wilkesbarre. The Pittston company, commanded by Capt. Jeremiah Blanchard, numbering about forty men, was at Pittston Fort. The Huntington and Salem company commanded by Capt. John Franklin, numbering about thirty-five men, was at home. These were the militia, or train-bands, of the settlement, and included all who were able to bear arms, without regard to age. Old men and boys were enrolled in them.

Then there was Capt. Dethick Hewitt's company, formed and kept together under the resolution of Congress, to which reference has already been made. Besides these, there were a number who were not enrolled in any of the companies, numbering about one hundred ; and in addition, there were a number in the Valley who had been driven from the settlements up the river. Making altogether in the Valley, a force of men of all ages and boys, numbering about four hundred, besides those in Pittston Fort.

Notwithstanding the neglect which all their former appeals for aid had met with, a new appeal was made by the settlers when they learned the certainty and imminence of the danger that was threatening, and fast closing in about them. Again was an express sent to Washington and to Congress, informing them of the immediate presence of the enemy and of the imminent peril which threatened, requesting the aid of their two companies, with such additional force as could be sent ; but there was so much hesitancy in deciding, and so much delay in letting the companies go after the decision was made,

that Captains Durkee and Ransom, and Lieutenants Wells and Ross, and some others, resigned their commissions in disgust, and hurried home to the relief of their beleaguered neighbors, friends and families.

The two Wyoming companies, largely reduced by disease and the casualties of war, were thereupon united and placed under the command of Simon Spalding, as Captain, raised to that position from a Lieutenancy in Durkee's company. After a day or two's detention, this company alone was sent by a roundabout way to Wyoming. Although Captains Durkee and Ransom, Lieutenants Ross, Wells, and some others, arrived before the march to battle, they could give no definite information as to when the company might be depended upon to arrive for their assistance. Capt. Clingman, at the lower Fort Jenkins, thirty-five miles down the river, had been sent for by express, the urgency and danger of the situation made known to him, and his assistance, with his command, consisting of ninety men, earnestly solicited. There was not much hope or expectation of this company marching to their assistance, from the fact that it was a Pennsylvania company, feeling no interest in the salvation of the settlement, yet it was thought their humanity might prompt them to do their duty, and hence they might assist in driving back the savages and British. On the 2d, Col. Denison had sent a messenger express to Capt. John Franklin and Lieut. Stoddard Bowen, to hurry forward to the scene of danger, with their Huntington and Salem company, without delay. Col. Zebulon Butler was at Wilkesbarre, putting everything in that neighborhood in a defensible position, and awaiting developments.

Such was the situation, when, on the morning of Friday, the 3d of July, Major John Butler sent a flag to Forty Fort, demanding an unconditional surrender of that fort, the public stores, and Capt. Hewitt's company, with a promise that he would, when in possession, give them good terms of capitulation, and with a threat that in

case of refusal, he would move on them at once in full force. The demand was refused by Col. Denison, then in command, but the refusal was accompanied with a suggestion that he would like time and opportunity to consult with Col. Butler and other officers, who were not then present. The flag was born by Daniel Ingersoll, a prisoner, taken at Wintermute Fort, who was accompanied by a Tory and an Indian, to serve both as guards and spies. They returned, bearing the refusal of surrender, and it was supposed that upon their return and report to Major Butler, he would immediately march upon them. A messenger was forthwith despatched to Col. Butler, at Wilkesbarre, informing him of the situation, and requesting his immediate presence with all the available force at command. Col. Butler at once ordered the two Wilkesbarre companies and the Hanover company, to march directly to Forty Fort. They promptly responded, and at one o'clock they were all at the place of rendezvous. Information had been sent to other parts of the Valley, for every man to hasten to Forty Fort, as an attack was hourly expected. Immediately upon Col. Butler's arrival, a consultation of the officers was held, in which the situation was fully discussed It was decided not to surrender, but to hold the fort at all hazards.

For the purpose of securing, by delays in negotiations, sufficient time to permit the arrival of Franklin and Spalding's companies, and possibly Clingman's, a flag was sent to Major Butler, for a conference with him, upon the subject of his demand of the morning. At the same time scouts were sent out to make reconnoisance, and learn, if possible, the strength and situation of the enemy, and watch his movements. In fact, such scouts had been out all the morning. The flag had not proceeded half way to Major Butler's camp, when it was fired upon by prowling Indians and Tories, probably out as spies, and compelled to return. After consultation, an-

other flag was sent out. It was also fired upon and compelled to return. The scouts sent out, returned with the news that they had not been able to get near enough to the British camp, to ascertain more than that they were still occupying the neighborhood of Wintermute Fort, and that the Indians were prowling about in every direction, many of them moving down the Valley, capturing horses and cattle which were roaming about in the woods. Other scouts were sent out, and it was resolved to try another flag. This had not proceeded far, when it was fired upon and compelled to return. Scouts that had been out returned with reports that the enemy were moving down toward the fort, and that their number was not greater than that in the fort.

It was at once resolved to go out and meet them, and, if possible, beat and drive them back, at least stay their progress of destruction down the Valley. Accordingly, the force gathered at Forty Fort, numbering about four hundred, including old men and boys, marched out, at about 3 o'clock in the afternoon, to defend their homes and harvests against the invaders, leaving the fort, with a few old men and young boys, women and children, many of them sick, under the command of Lieut. John Jenkins. They marched from the fort in martial array, with the Stars and Stripes at their head, to the tune of "St. Patrick's day in the morning," played on the fife by a true son of Erin, and drums beating, and proceeded as far as Abraham's creek, at the point where the road now crosses it at the stone bridge, a little over a mile from the fort. Here on the hill a halt was made, and the party properly disposed to resist an attack. The position was well chosen. The creek at this point makes a complete elbow, round a hill which rises, abruptly, about twenty feet above the stream, largely protecting their right and front, while a branch of the stream and a marsh, on the left, covered that part of their force, and their rear was open for retreat to the fort, should that

become necessary. The position was will calculated to be successfully held against a largely superior force, at least it gave them a great advantage in case of an attack upon them.

From this point a flag was again sent out, and other scouts, and their return awaited. This flag was also fired upon and returned. Scouts that had been previously sent out, had, by great skill and energy, succeeded in making a reconnoisance of the enemy, by passing along the foot of the mountains on the west of the Valley; but on their return, when in Western Wyoming, near the present site of Shoemaker's mills, were shot, one fatally; the other, slightly wounded, made his way back to headquarters. The information brought was to the effect that the enemy were in commotion, but what their design or which way they were moving, could not be told, but the supposition was they were preparing to leave the Valley. All the information gained was too indefinite and too slight to be of any use in judging of either the numbers or design of the enemy. All was doubt and uncertainty.

Speculations and discussion now began to arise as to the intent of the enemy. The march upon Forty Fort, which had been threatened by Major Butler in the morning, unless a surrender was made, had not taken place. What did it mean? Had the threat any meaning, or was it mere braggadocio? It was suggested that the invading force had been over estimated by the timid; that if Major Butler had the overwhelming force pretended, he would, long ere this, have put his threat in execution, instead of breaking camp and leaving the Valley, as now appeared most probable. What did it mean? Was it a mere threat to frighten, and thus evade pursuit? Such were the queries the situation gave rise to, and in consequence of no satisfactory answer being at hand, the discussion grew warm—hot, I may say. In the discussion, scouts returned reporting that the enemy were

burning all the settlement above, and collecting all the cattle within their reach, and, from appearances, it was supposed they would not risk an immediate attack on Forty Fort, at least, did not intend to do so, but would burn, plunder and destroy all the upper settlements, probably cross the river to Pittston, take possession of that fort, destroy that and the neighboring settlements, massacre the people or make them prisoners, and then return back with their booty from whence they came. This report put an entirely new feature on the face of affairs. Although speculative to a great extent, yet it afforded those who had been fierce to march and meet the enemy, new grounds on which to urge their views. They had become tired of seeking the enemy by flags, and demanded to march, meet and attack him wherever found. They insisted that his force was small, too small to cope with them, or he would, ere this, have executed his threat of the morning.

The cool and more judicious of the officers, on whom the responsibilities rested, thought prudence the better part of valor, and decided that their present position being tenable against a superior force, and serving to protect the lower and main part of the valley from the encroachments of the enemy, would answer the purpose of protection to that part of it, until the expected reinforcements should arrive. At this point in the debate, Lieut. Timothy Pierce arrived with information that the company of Spalding was on its way, and would probably arrive on Sunday, for their assistance. This news did not, however, calm the troubled waters. It was contended that Sunday would be too late. That the enemy by that time could prowl through the Valley, rob and burn their homes, and kill or take captive the women and children, drive off their horses and cattle, and destroy their harvests, while they, like base and cowardly poltroons, were standing by with arms in their hands, and seeing him do it, without making an attempt to prevent

it. Besides, were they to remain where they were, or go back to the fort and shut themselves up in it, to await deliverance, that they had not collected and in store sufficient provisions to hold out a long siege, or endure a long delay. The discussion became heated and personal. Charges of cowardice were made by Capt. Lazarus Stewart, then a private in Capt. McKarrachen's Hanover company, against all who opposed advancing, particularly against Col. Butler the principal commander, who was against an advance, and he threatened to report him as such to headquarters. Stewart was ordered under arrest by Col. Denison.

The Hanover company became mutinous. Capt. McKarrachen resigned, and the company immediately elected Stewart in his place. They now threatened a revolt, unless a march should be immediately made against the enemy. Col. Denison, a cool and quiet man, who had taken little or no part in the discussion, as yet, urged the propriety of careful and considerate action, and the impropriety and danger of hasty and inconsiderate action. That it would be far better to wait until more was known of the number and movements of the enemy; that it was hardly possible that they would attempt to overrun the Valley as matters then stood; that a little delay would give them more information upon these points, when they could act intelligently, and in the meantime, Spalding's and Franklin's companies would arrive, the latter, certainly. These suggestions did not meet the feelings and views of the men generally. They had become warmed up by the fiery words of Capt. Stewart, and declared that it would be a disgrace never to be forgotten or forgiven, should they remain there, or lie cooped up in the fort, while the enemy should devastate the Valley, plunder and burn their homes, and then draw off with their booty, and they too cowardly to offer the least resistance. It was therefore determined to march, and meet or attack the enemy.

Those who would be disposed to blame the commanders of the settlers for permitting the decision of the question, whether to march or remain in position, to be made by the rank and file, should remember that a perfect Republic existed here.

The people were their own rulers, in the strictest and fullest sense of that term. They met in town meeting and disposed of all their affairs. The town meeting was a legislative, judicial and executive body, all in one. There was no veto on its enactments; no appeal from its decisions, and no escape from its execution. All were accustomed to take part in its deliberations and debates; all voted on its final decisions, and all submitted to its authority. Could they do less on this occasion? It may be objected that this was a military body, and as such, ought to have been submissive to the commands of its officers. This was not the view they took of it. It was only a town meeting, met for military purposes, in which they all had an equal interest, and from the acts of which flowed a common danger or safety. When it was decided to advance and attack the enemy, Col. Butler discharged Capt. Stewart from arrest, saying:

"We will march and meet the enemy, if he is to be found, and I will show the men that I dare lead where they dare follow." The order to march was immediately given, and they proceeded cautiously on their way as far as the hill, just below the monument, where another halt was made, and where scouts met them with information that the enemy had set fire to Wintermute Fort and were leaving the Valley. In confirmation of this report, they pointed out the smoke from the fire of the burning fort. The men now became eager to advance and pursue the enemy. Here, Richard Inman, one of the Hanover men, wearied with the long march and the burden he was carrying, lay down alongside of a log fence, while they were halted, and went to sleep. After a halt they moved on toward Wintermute Fort, to test the accuracy

of the information brought in by the scouts. They advanced to a point directly in line with the south-western boundary of the Fair ground, where they formed in battle order, their line extending from the hill which forms the plain, up in a north-westerly direction, about 1500 or 1600 feet.

Captains Durkee and Ransom, and Lieutenants Ross and Welles, having no immediate command, were detailed to mark off the ground and form the line of battle. Their march had been in column along and just on the hill mentioned, and on coming up to the line marked off, the column deployed to the left, and every company took its designated station and advanced in line to the proper position, where it halted, the right resting on the hill, the left extending to the northwest. Yellow and pitch-pine trees, with scrub-oaks about breast high, were everywhere over the plain. There were very few trees of any size. The Indians were accustomed to burn the plain over every year, to make pasture for deer and other game, and thus destroyed the growth of trees of large size. The line was formed with Captain Hewitt's company on the right; next, Captain Bidlack's; and next, Captain Geer's. Captain Whittlesey's company was placed on the left; next, Captain Stewart's, and next Captain Buck's. Captains Durkee and Ransom, and Lieutenants Ross, Welles and Pierce were assigned positions on the field, rather as aids than commanders. Lieutenant Stoddart Bowen had arrived with a few men, from Salem, and they were added to Whittlesey's company on the left. Captain Blanchard remained at the Pittston Fort with his force. The Indians and Tories had taken possession of all the water craft in the upper part of the Valley, and consequently Blanchard's company could not get over to join our men, had it been prudent and proper for them to have done so. Col. Butler, supported by Major Jonathan Waite Garret, assisted by Anderson Dana as adjutant, commanded the right

wing. Col. Denison, supported by Lieut-Colonel George Dorrance, commanded the left wing. Such was the ground, such the forces, and such the order of battle.

While these arrangements were being made, scouts were coming in bringing information of the movements of the enemy. They had succeeded in making their reconnoisance to the immediate vicinity of the fort, saw it burning, and a few Indians and others lingering near.

The enemy, in the meantime, had not been idle. From their scouts they had learned the movements and progress of the settlers in their march; had called in their scattered forces, particularly those at Jenkins' Fort, and had placed them in position to receive the settlers upon their advance. Major Butler, Capt. Wm. Caldwell and Lieutenant Turney, with the British, were located on the left of their position, from the hill toward the marsh; next, and on their right, were the Tories, under Captains Benjamin and William Pawling and Hopkins; and to the right of these were the Indians, under Kayingwaurto, Gucingerachton and Thayendenegea, reaching beyond the marsh and doubling down behind a covert of alders, white birch and other brush; the whole force being arranged nearly in the form of a crescent. They skulked and hid away in the bushes, so that the few who were stirring about the open space near the burning fort, were all that could be seen.

After the settlers had formed their line of battle, they marched, in single line as formed, nearly a mile, and to within forty or fifty rods of the fort, their right still resting on the hill, and their left extending about 1600 feet towards the marsh, and to within 400 feet of it, where they halted and sent forward scouts for further reconnoisance. On the advance of the scouts, Indians would pop up, fire at them and flee, some in one direction, some in another. Here they began to realize the fact, that the enemy might be near in sufficient force to make their further advance a bloody one, in fact, that a battle was

imminent. They came to a halt. Their officers rode along the line informing the men of the situation, and addressing and encouraging them to stand bravely up to the work.

Says Col. Butler—

"The enemy is probably in full force just ahead of us. If so, we shall have hot work. Remember your homes! Your women and children call on you to protect them from the tomahawk and scalping-knife of the savages. Your own fate, as well as that of your women, your children and your homes, is in your hands. Remember the fate of the Hardings and make sure work. Victory is safety! Defeat is death! Let every man do his duty and all will be well!"

The line at this point was counted off into odds and evens, from right to left. The advance was made by the odds marching forward five steps and halting, and then the evens marching ten steps, and halting and so on, alternately, each division or section marching ten steps, halting, firing and loading, while the other was going through the same exercise, until more than half the distance to what finally became the field of battle had been gone over. As they advanced in this manner, a number of Indians, here and there over the field, would rise, deliver their fire and flee before them. The fire would be returned and our people would continue to advance. Soon a squad of British arose, delivered their fire and fell back. Our commander cries out, "See! the British retreat! Stand firm and the day is ours!" They continued to advance and soon another squad of British arose, delivered their fire and fell back. Again the cry, "The British retreat! The day is ours!"

Our men had now arrived at a point just opposite Wintermute Fort, on their right, and on the edge, in front, of the only cleared space on the plain, which was an open field of three or four acres. They continued their advance slowly and cautiously, when they soon found the British in full force in front, standing up to the work, though apparently yielding ground The firing now became general along the lines on both sides. Our people felt they were gaining ground and driving the enemy be-

fore them. Too much attention had been devoted to the movements of the British, in front, to properly observe and understand the movements and dangers of the other portions of the field. The British lay behind a log fence which ran along the upper side of this cleared field down to the foot of the hill, at a marshy spot, and were largely concealed and protected by it. The Indians, lying behind the marsh, on the other side of the field, which ran diagonally across the front of our line, and concealed behind its dense shrubbery, had not manifested their force on the field, and their location was not really known. When the settlers had advanced fully into the cleared field, and were, as they supposed, driving the enemy before them, the Indians broke from their covert and fell upon their left, yelling like demons, pouring in their fire and pressing to close quarters with the spear and tomahawk. Their number was sufficient not only to outflank the left, but to turn it and gain the rear. Col. Denison, on discovering this movement, at once gave orders for the left to fall back, and form an oblique line to the position of the right, and thus bring the left into a position to face the enemy.

The order was not fully understood, or was imperfectly communicated, and hence the movement was confused. In the midst of the noise and confusion, the word oblique was understood by some to be retreat, and the line was not formed, but the left began moving in on the right in a broken, confused mass. The officers, meantime, made every possible effort to have their orders understood, and to restore order and bring the men to face the enemy and stand their ground, but in vain. Col. Dorrance fell, severely wounded, while riding along the line gallantly laboring in this vain attempt. The mistake was a fatal one and could not be retrieved. The Indians, meantime, rushed in upon them, yelling, brandishing their spears and tomahawks, and the British and Tories pressed down upon them in front, pouring in a terrible fire. Broken,

borne down by overwhelming numbers, and pressed by an irresistible force, the left gave way and fell back on the right. The movement was rapid and confused and brought confusion on the right. From confusion to disorder, from disorder to broken lines, and thence to flight were but steps in regular gradation. The flight became a slaughter, the slaughter a massacre. Such was the battle.

It was impossible that the result of the battle should have been different. The enemy were nearly three to one, and had the advantage of position. Our men fought bravely, but it was of no avail Every Captain fell at his position in the line, and there the men lay like sheaves of wheat after the harvesters.

The flight from the battle-field, although confused and made under overwhelming pressure, by a furious onslaught of the enemy, yet, was not entirely devoid of system. The men, generally, gathered in squads, and commenced moving off, frequently turning back, like the hunted lion, and holding in check their pursuers, by their threatening attitude and the mutual support they gave each other. On the left, a squad of a dozen or more, unconscious of the fatal state of affairs by which they were surrounded, one man only, John Caldwell, having fallen in line, stood their ground and loaded and fired, not only after all their friends had fled and were gone, but until the enemy had passed by them in their pursuit. They commenced moving off the field together, but one by one broke off, seeking safety in separate flight, by hiding in the bushes, and fleeing out of the line of pursuit. Part of them were taken prisoners, and with others, to the number of ten, were taken about half a mile above the battle-field, about midway between Wintermute and Jenkins' Fort, on the top of the hill, on the line between Exeter, and West Pittston, near the river, where they were put to death with savage torture.

Capt. Blanchard and others, at Pittston, seeing fires burning below on the opposite side of the river, went down to see what was going on. They beheld a scene of torture of the most horrible and revolting character.

Several naked men were being driven round a stake, in the midst of flames. Their groans and shrieks were most pitious, while the shrieks and yells of the savages, who danced around, urging the victims on with spears, were too horrible to be endured. They were powerless to prevent or avenge these attrocities, and withdrew, heart-sick, from the sight of the terrible orgies.

Among the prisoners was Joseph Elliott, who, seeing the horrible fate that awaited him, if he remained, sprang, and broke through the death circle of the savages, and fled to the river and plunged in. When out about twenty rods, a ball from his pursuers struck him in the shoulder, wounding him slightly. He continued on, crossed the river, and proceeded safely to Wilkesbarre Fort.

A body of the fugitives surrounded Col. Butler, and all moved off together. Another body surrounded Col. Denison, and kept together until they reached Forty Fort. On their way, with three Indians in hot pursuit, Rufus Bennett, who held Col. Butler's horse by the tail, and was the hindmost of the party, remembered that Richard Inman had lain down at the hill, at their second halting place, and not gone on with the others. As they came near to where Inman lay, Bennett turned his head in that direction and saw Inman sitting up rubbing his eyes. "Is your gun loaded, Inman? "Yes, it is!" "Shoot this Indian!" Inman raised his rifle and the foremost Indian, as he passed the fence, was shot through the heart. He sprang up, uttering a fearful yell, and fell prostrate. The other pursuing Indians turned and fled back, leaving the party unmolested.

Col. Butler repaired to the Wilkesbarre, or Wyoming Fort. Col Denison took up his quarters at Forty Fort. They at once took all necessary precautions to hold their

positions and keep safely their inmates for the night, and until other arrangements could be made for their security. The men fled generally back to the fort on the route they had marched out, or to the river, pursued closely by the British, Indians and Tories, and it would be difficult to tell which took most delight in shooting and cutting down the fugitives. No quarter was granted. All were indiscriminately slaughtered, wherever found. It was a dreadful hour. Men seemed transformed into demons. Lieut. Elijah Shoemaker, who had fled into the river and was quite out of harm's way, was hailed by Windecker, a Tory, who had worked for him and received many favors at his hands, and requested to come back and put himself under Windecker's protection. Shoemaker stopped hesitating what course to pursue. "Come out! Come out!" says Windecker. "You know I will protect you!" Shoemaker, trusting to the assurance, came back, and as he extended his hand to take Windecker's to help him up the bank, Windecker struck his tomahawk into the head of his victim, who fell back into the river and floated away. Many other fugitives were in like mannner lured to shore, by promise of quarter or safety, and in like manner slain; too many to be recounted on this occasion.

The account of the horrible orgies at what has since been known as Queen Esther's Bloody Rock must close this part of this most bloody event. On the evening of the battle, sixteen of the prisoners taken on the field of battle and in the flight, under promise of quarter, were collected together by their savage captors around a rock, near the brow of the hill, at the southeast of the village of Wyoming, and a little more than a mile from the field of action. The rock at that time was about two feet high on its eastern front, with a surface four or five feet square, running back to a level with the ground and beneath it at its western extremity. The prisoners were arranged in a ring around this rock, and were surround-

ed by a body of about two hundred savages, under the leadership and inspiration of Queen Esther, a fury in the form of woman, who assumed the office of executioner. The victims, one at a time, were taken from the devoted circle and led to the east front of the rock, where they were made to sit down. They were then taken by the hair and their heads pulled back on the rock, when the bloody Queen Esther, with a death-maul would dash out their brains. The savages, as each victim was in this manner immolated, would dance around in a ring, holding each others' hands, shouting and hallooing, closing with the death-whoop. In this manner fourteen of the party had been put to death. The fury of the savage Queen increased with the work of blood. Seeing there was no other way or hope of deliverance, Lebbeus Hammond, one of the prisoners, in a fit of desperation, with a sudden spring, broke through the circle of Indians and fled toward the mountain. Rifles cracked! Tomahawks flew! Indians yelled! But Hammond held on his course for about fifty rods, when he stumbled and fell, but sprang up again. Stopping for a moment to listen, he found his pursuers on each side of him, or a little ahead, running and yelling like demons. He stopped behind a large pine tree to take breath, when, reflecting that his pursuers being already ahead of him, he would gain nothing by going on in that direction, he turned and ran for the river in such a course as to avoid the party around the fatal rock, and yet to keep an eye on them. He passed by without being seen, went down and plunged into the high grass in the swampy ground at the foot of the hill, where he remained concealed for about two hours, watching the movements and listening to the yells of his savage pursuers. He finally crawled out of his concealment, cautiously made his way to the river, and thence down to the fort.

Let us go back to the battle-field. On the fatal left we find only the body of John Caldwell, of Captain Whittle-

sey's company. He was killed by the first fire of the Indians; in fact they fired but once, and dropping their guns rushed in with spears and tomahawks. Not a living, breathing soul is found on the field. All who had not been able to fly, except Col. Dorrance, were put to death and scalped. The wounded were killed where they lay, or were dragged to the burning fort and thrown upon the fire, pierced and held on with spears. They pleaded in most pitious terms to be spared, but they appealed to hearts of adamant, that rejoiced in their sufferings and laughed at their merciful supplications. The body of Captain Ransom, who was a fleshy man, was lying near the fort; his thigh was split with a knife all around from the knee to the hip. Captain Buck was lying by his side, his head cut off. Captain Bidlack lay a short distance off; he had been held on a fire in a heap of old logs and brush and burned to death. All were shockingly mutilated. It was a terrible sight. The stench from the burning bodies polluted the atmosphere with its noisome odor. Night came, but it did not put an end to the work of death. All through its dark shadows, the Indians and Tories, like beasts of prey, prowled along the line of flight, hunting out those who had concealed themselves, slaying them on the spot, and tearing off their reeking scalps, or capturing and reserving them for torture.

To those who were in the forts, and those who had escaped the pursuit of the murderous savages, that was a night of consternation, of alarm, and of terrible agony. The shrill whoop of the Indians, mingled with the yells and hootings of the Tories and British, as they gathered near, proclaimed a fate as horrible to the survivors, as that of any who had fallen into their hands. All through the night was heard the voice of lamentation for the fate of husbands, fathers, sons, brothers and friends, who had fallen by the hands of the enemy; and weeping and wailing for tribulation, danger and death, that seemed to await them on the morrow. To the survivors it was

"a night long to be remembered," never to be forgotten.

The morning of the 4th dawned amid the deepest sorrow and the most gloomy forebodings. Whichever way the afflicted people turned their eyes, death stared them in the face. The victorious foe seemed but to have whet their appetite for blood by the carnival of the preceding day and night. They spread themselves everywhere throughout the Valley, and their pathway was marked by the shrieks of falling victims, the conflagration of their dwellings, and the destruction of their teeming harvests. About eight o'clock in the morning, Major Butler despatched a messenger with a flag to Forty Fort, requesting Col. Denison to come up to headquarters and agree on terms of capitulation. He went, accompanied by Obadiah Gore, Esq., and Dr. Lemuel Gustin. A demand was made for the delivering up of all Continental troops, as prisoners of war, specially naming Col. Z. Butler, Lieut. J. Jenkins and the remains of Hewitt's company. Denison desired time to consult, which was given. It was determined that those parties should at once leave the Valley, and the capitulation should be only for the inhabitants Col. Butler at once fled across the mountains to the Lehigh, and Hewitt's company fled down the river.

Terms were agreed upon, on a renewal of negotiations, in all respects favorable to the inhabitants, except that it provided, "that the property taken from the people called "*Tories*, up the river, be made good ; and they to remain in "peaceable possession of their farms." This was the only provision against the settlers and in favor of the enemy, or any part of them.

"Nevertheless," says Col. Denison, "the enemy, being powerful, proceeded, plundered, burned and destroyed almost everything that was valuable ; murdered several of the remaining inhabitants, and compelled most of the remainder to leave their settlements, nearly destitute of clothing, provisions and the necessaries of life."

William Gallop, on oath, says :

"We were not to be plundered, but they plundered us of everything. They kept us three or four days, then told us to go. One hundred and eighty wo-

men and children, accompanied by only thirteen men, went together. They suffered extremely, all on foot, barefoot, bareheaded, in great want of provissions. Two women were delivered in the woods. Those of the men who had been in the battle made their escape before the fort surrendered, as the enemy said they would kill all that had been in the battle. The savages burnt all our improvements; scarcely a house left that was valuable. About two hundred men were then absent, serving in the Continental army. The greater part of the men, women and children had fled east and down the river on the night of massacre. Crossing the river at Forty Fort, they plunged into the wilderness and made their way to the mountains. Many fled on the night of the 4th. The number of fugitives fleeing east from the Valley was about two thousand. The savages, finding they had fled, pursued them. Many were slain by the pursuing savages in their flight, some died of excitement and fatigue, others of hunger and exposure, while many were lost who never found their way out. Hundreds were never seen again after they turned their backs on Wyoming. By what sufferings and torture they died the world will never know. On their way was a long and dreary swamp to be traversed by them, which, on account of the number who fell and perished in its mire and among its thorny brambles, was called "The Shades of Death."

On the evening of the 5th, the advance party fell in with Capt, Spalding's company at Bear Swamp. On the morning of the 6th, Lieut. Jenkins joined the company and they continued their march toward Wyoming. When they arrived on the top of the mountains, within sight of the afflicted valley, they halted and sent out parties to protect the fugitives and drive back the pursuing savages. They remained here engaged in this work for two or three days, when they fell into the rear of the fugitives, scattering themselves through the woods, picking up those who had fallen by the way, exhausted from hunger and fatigue, giving them food, and encouraging and helping forward the women and children.

The number slain in the battle and massacre has been variously stated. It may be put down at 300. Those who perished in the wilderness may be put at 200, making a total of 500, in the battle, massacre and flight

Major John Butler, in his report, says 227 scalps were taken at Wyoming. Many were shot in the river, whose scalps were not obtained.

As the exact number of the slain is a matter of great doubt, I give the numbers as stated by various parties

who may be presumed to know somewhat about it. Major John Butler says 227 scalps were taken; Col. Zeb. Butler says 200, about; Lieut. John Jenkins says 300, and a number of officers; Col. N. Denison says 268, privates, 1 Colonel, 2 Majors, 7 Captains, 13 Lieutenants, 11 Ensigns; Captain John Franklin, 204; Isaac A. Chapman, 300; Hon. David Scott, 300; T. F. Gordon, 330; Rev. James May, 300; George Grant, 300; Dr. David Ramsay, 360; Bartram Galbraith, Jr., 340; Abram Scott, 340; Col. W. L. Stone, 300; Dr. Geo. Peck, over 200; Charles Miner, 160; Col. Pickering, 170.

The story of the sad fate of Col. Dorrance remains to be told. On the 4th, as the victors were moving down to Forty Fort, to avail themselves of the full fruits of their victory, the captors of Col. Dorrance, two Indians, started to take him down to that post. Being an officer of prominence, dressed in a new uniform, with new sword and equipments, he had been spared when the slaughter of the wounded on the battle field had taken place, under the idea that more could be obtained for his ransom than could be made from his slaughter. About a mile from the field he became exhausted, and was unable to proceed further. What to do with him was a matter of pressing inquiry with the savages. Behind them was a desolation, ahead, new fields of plunder. To remain where they were and take care of their prisoner was out of the question. Stepping aside they held a short consultation. When the Indians returned to Col. Dorrance, one of them demanded his sword, which he refused to deliver up. Thereupon the Indian seized it by the scabbard and attempted to wrest it from him. The Colonel held to it by the hilt. The Indian, seeing that he was not getting the sword, grabbed the blade, and in the struggle his hand was severely cut. The other Indian then came to his assistance, forced the sword from the Colonel, and with it cut off his head. They then divided their spoil, one taking his scalp and sword, the

other his coat and cocked hat with feather. The latter at once doffed his own habiliments and donned the coat and hat of their victim, in all else being in *puris naturalibus*, and thus proceeded to the fort with his companion. Gaily and proudly as the veriest dandy in new toggery, he strutted about and through the fort, before, as he supposed, an admiring audience. He took particular pains to exhibit himself to Mrs. Dorrance, who sat grieving over the sad fate of her husband. Ludicrous and comical as the sight would be as a comedy, it was a sad and mournful one as part of a bloody tragedy.

I have thus gone over the leading events connected with the Battle and Massacre of Wyoming, as we have learned them from our ancestors, and it may appear to some to be but a one-sided story, told with the views and in the interests of that side only. Deeming it but fair and proper that both sides should be heard, I will give you the story, as written by a historian on the other side. Capt. Alexander Patterson's petition to the Legislature of Pennsylvania, in 1804. Says:

"In the year 1770, there were a number of inhabitants, settlers on the north-east branch of the Susquehanna, near Wyalusing, under the Pennsylvania title. Amongst these were two brothers by the name of Pawling, of a respectable family from the county of Montgomery. They had paid one thousand pounds in gold and silver for their farm at Wyalusing, unto Job Gilaway, a useful, well-informed Indian, who had obtained a grant for said land from the late proprietors of this State. Among the settlers were the Messrs. Secord, Depew, Vanderlip, and many others, wealthy farmers. The Yankees at Wyoming being more numerous, and though at the distance of sixty miles, insisted that the Pennsylvania settlers should come to Wyoming and train and associate under Yankee officers of their own appointment. As may be supposed, the proposals were very obnoxious to the inhabitants of Pennsylvania, and very properly refused, alleging they would associate by themselves and would not be commanded by intruders, who had so repeatedly sacked the well disposed inhabitants of Pennsylvania, and at that time bid defiance to its laws and jurisdiction. This gave a pretext to the Yankees for calling them Tories. They then went in force and tied the Pennsylvania settlers, and brought them to Wyoming, with all their moveables, and confined them in a log house, until the Indians who lived in the neighborhood of Wyalusing—and loved the Pennsylvanians, and at that time were well affected to the United States—some of whom had joined our army."

These Indians came to Wyoming and requested that the Pennsylvania people should be released from confinement. After some altercation, and the Indians declaring they would complain to Congress, they were released, and on their return, with property, were ambushed and fired upon by the Yankees. The events of all this was that the Pennsylvania people were so harrassed by the intruders, that they were driven to seek an asylum with the Indians, and at length retired to Niagara for protection. It was well known at the time, on the frontiers of Northumberland and Northampton counties, that the conduct of these Yankees occasioned the secession of the Five Nations from the United States. As was natural to imagine, those Pennsylvania settlers who had been so cruelly robbed of their property would endeavor to regain it. Their address and moving complaints induced Joseph Brandt, a well-known Indian chief, and a Col. Butler, Superintendent of Indian Affairs, to come with them to Wyoming with a number of Indians, for the recovery of their property, goods and chattels.

The party arrived at a place called Abraham's Plains, about five miles above Wyoming. The Yankees were apprised of their being at that place, and must needs go and fight them, led on by the old murderer, Lazarus Stewart, first having drank two barrels of whiskey to stimulate their spirits. They marched in riot, with drums beating and colors flying. The result was that a number of them was killed. Those who asked quarter were humanly treated, nor was a woman or child molested, only enjoined to leave the country to the rightful owners. Surely there was no propriety in calling that a massacre or murder. The wretches brought it upon themselves, and so be it.

Benjamin Pawling, in a letter dated at Niagara, in 1784, to Edward Bartholomew, at Philadelphia, states that the Pennsylvania claimants were the people that cut off the Connecticut settlers, at Wyoming.

Col. Guy Johnson to Lord George Germain. New York, 10th Sept., 1778, says:

* * "Your Lordship will have learned, before this can reach you, of the successful incursions of the Indians and loyalists from the northward. In conformity to the instructions I conveyed to my officers, they assembled their forces early in May, and one division, under one of my deputies (Mr. Butler), proceeded with great success down the Susquehanna, destroying the posts and settlements at Wyoming, augmenting their numbers with many loyalists and alarming all the country; whilst another division, under Mr. Brandt, the Indian chief, cut off 294 men near Schoharie, and destroyed the adjacent settlements, with several magazines, from whence the rebels had derived great resources, thereby affording encouragement and opportunity to many friends of government to join them." * *

These 294 scalps of men cut off by Mr Butler and the chief, Brandt, and their associates, and sold in the British

market, were gathered on the following fields, namely:

| | |
|---|---|
| Cobleskill, | 22 |
| West Branch of Susquehanna, | 45 |
| Wyoming, | 227 |
| | 294 |

It is said by some that Brandt was not at Wyoming. The story as told by both sides is that he was. If these be not the fields wherein were harvested and prepared for the British market these 294 scalps of human victims, please tell me from what fields they were gathered? The number is sure to be correct, for the report comes from the purchaser, a high dignitary of the British crown, a wholesale dealer in the article, for which he paid $2940 in British gold and silver. A few more may have been gathered and lost by the wayside, but this was the number taken to market. At ten dollars each they were too valuable to be counted loosely. The number agrees with the stumps upon the ground in these localities. Until we know better we must accept the story as told by both sides at the time of the transaction. Truth and justice require that another fact, which has been omitted, should be told at this time. So far as known to the people here, not a woman or child was slain by the enemy in the Valley. How many, if any, were slain by them in the woods and mountains, whither they pursued them, was never known. There was no shutting up of whole families in their houses, and then fire set to them and the whole consumed together. No slaughter of whole families, men, women and children, in that or any other way. The wickedness and atrocity to make them execrated throughout the civilized world.

Major Butler, on the morning of the 5th, received a letter from a messenger. He called his officers and the Indian chiefs around him and read its contents. He addressed them earnestly, at the conclusion they gave a great shout. He at once prepared to leave the Valley, and set out by way of the Lackawanna, accompanied by

Brandt and his command. They gained the Susquehanna at Great Bend, from which point Brandt continued on to Unadilla, where he is found on the 9th, writing to Persifer Carr for corn. Gucingerachton and Kayingwaurto went up the Susquehanna, accompanied by the Tories. Capt. Spalding's company, accompanied the fugitives flying east as far as Stroudsburg, where they remained until the 4th of August, when they returned to the Valley, accompanied by many of the fugitives. They took possession and held it till the close of the contest with Great Britain, although often assailed, and many of them killed or taken prisoners.

The dead, who had fallen on the fatal 3d, remained unburied until the 22d of October. On the preceding day the following order was issued :

CAMP WESTMORELAND, Oct. 21, 1778.

Ordered, That there be a party, consisting of a Lieutenant, two sergeants, two corporals and twenty-five men, to parade to-morrow morning, with arms as a guard to those who will go to bury the remains of the men who were killed at the late battle, at and near the place called Wintermute Fort."

In pursuance of this order, Lieut. John Jenkins, on the morning of the 22d, took charge of a party and went forth on the mournful duty assigned them. They took with them two carts, some shovels and some two-tined wooden forks. The weather having been dry for some time after the battle, the bodies had dried and shriveled up so that few could be recognized. They had become so light that two men, one at the head and the other at the knees, could take a body up on their forks and toss it into the cart without difficulty. Passing along up from Forty Fort they had reached but little more than half way to the field of conflict before their carts were full. They then stopped and dug a hole in the earth, to bury them. After putting in what bodies they had, they found the hole still capable of holding more. They therefore proceeded on to the battle-field and gathered up all they could find there and on the way, and hauled them all to this spot, making for them one common grave. It was well

it was so done, for they went out and fell together in the same glorious cause, and in death they should not have been divided.

After they had deposited all that could readily be found, they closed the grave and left them to their rest, where they remained until the 4th of July, 1832, when they were exhumed, for the purpose of erecting a monument to their memory, which it is gratifying to record has been done. What bodies were not found and buried on that day in that grave, were afterwards buried when discovered, on the spot where they lay. The number buried at that time, where the monument now stands, was 96—60 of whom were from the battle-field, the rest on the line of flight.

Upon the reception of the horrible tidings from Wyoming, Gen. Washington directed Col. Thomas Hartley to form a rendezvous, gather troops and move against the invaders on their own ground. At the same time, Col. William Butler, of the 4th Pennsylvania regiment, was ordered from Fort Stanwix to go down and form a junction with Col. Hartley, at Tioga, and together operate against the enemy. Col. Hartley went as far as Tioga, took some Indians prisoners, burnt Queen Esther's town and palace, and destroyed Tioga; but Col. Butler did not appear to join him He returned to Wyoming. On his way he was attacked by a considerable body of Indians, between Wyalusing and Laceyville, on Indian Hill, and quite a sharp fight was had. The Indians were beaten and fled, leaving ten of their number dead on the field. Col. Butler mistook his way. He went down the head waters of the Delaware, instead of the Susquehanna. Discovering his mistake, he struck across to the Susquehanna, but too late to co-operate with Col. Hartley. He, however, destroyed the Indian castles and villages in the neighborhood of Unadilla, up and down the river.

The whole country had now become aroused to the terrible state of affairs on the frontiers, and vigorous and

ample means for subduing these inhuman monsters were demanded on all hands. Accordingly an expedition against them was devised during the winter of 1778-9, and set in motion in the following spring. This expedition was put in charge of Major-General John Sullivan, who marched into the Indian country as far as the Genesee river. He met the enemy in several pitched battles the most important of which was at Newtown, and defeated them in all. He destroyed forty of their villages and towns, with 160,000 bushels of corn, and devastated their whole country along the line of march. Among the slain in a battle at Chemung was Kayingwaurto, one of the chiefs who led the Indians at Wyoming. This expedition, while inflicting serious injury upon them in the destruction of their homes and means of subsistance, as well as by their utter demoralization as a warlike force, was not so seriously destructive to them in the loss of life, as the results which flowed from it. By the destruction of their town and crops they were thrown completely on the hands of the British, who were compelled to take them in and provide for them at Niagara.

The ensuing winter was one of great rigor and severity. The snow fell early and to a great depth, as much as eight feet, and remained upon the ground all the winter. The cold was intense and continuous, so that it was quite impossible to travel or get about. Shut up in narrow quarters, and fed on salt provisions, the scurvy broke out among them, and a large number died. They never recovered from these complicated calamities, and the once mighty Indian confederacy melted away with the opening of spring, and ceased, from that time forth, to be a power of any consequence or importance in the contest in which they had previously acted such a conspicuous and terrible part.

The haughty and chivalric of this splendid race of savages, whose skill and eloquence in council, and whose mighty conquests and long-continued domination over

surrounding tribes attracted the attention and won the admiration of the enlightened world, seemed to have been worthy of a better fate, but the degrading and demoralizing influence of association with the British and Tories, dragged them down to the lowest depths of depravity and terminated their career amidst the execrations of mankind, with none to mourn their unhappy end.

The British government, from the time when the news of the terrible atrocities committed at Wyoming reached that country, had all the moral power of her people against her in a further prosecution of the war. The opposition became strong and zealous, and it was with difficulty supplies were obtained for that purpose. The war lingered along without moral force or power for some years, became a scheming with treason and a work for incendiaries, and finally resulted in a glorious victory for the Americans, and an ignominious defeat of the British, who lost not only all they had fought for, but thirteen of the brightest jewels from their imperial diadem.

The Tories fled to Canada, losing everything, gaining nothing but an immortality of infamy.

The conquered and their descendants, arose from this holocaust of blood and flame with renewed life and vigor. They built up the waste places, cleared away the forests, erected homes, established institutions, embellished this beautiful Valley, now grown to be what you see them around you here to-day, and, perchance, may see to-morrow.

The nation they fought and sacrificed and died to establish, is great and mighty, the home of freemen, the abode of liberty. In all that enriches and ennobles mankind, in all that honors and dignifies a nation, she stands without a peer. Steam navigation, the telegraph, phonograph, telephone, microphone, electric pen, and other wonders in science and in practical life, have been invented and wrought out by the genius and skill of her people. They have given a mighty impetus to the human

mind, and wiped out all the bounds that have hitherto been set to control its onward progress. The dark, the the stone, the brazen, the silver, the golden, the iron, and all other ages have been swept away and superceded by the electric, or lightning age, and this great and mighty people have realized in themselves the mythological Jupiter Tonans of the ancients, grasping and wielding the lightnings of heaven, through directing them to bless instead of curse mankind.

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## ODE TO WYOMING.

A Poem composed by Mrs. Mary B. Richert, of Pittston, and read in a very handsome manner by Miss Essie Hopkins, of Brook Hall Female Seminary, Media, Pa.

BEAUTEOUS VALE! in by-gone times
I oft have rov'd where tuneful chimes
Pealed merrily in distant climes—
Yet, wheresoe'er I have sojourned,
Or wheresoe'er my feet have turned,
One thought on mem'ry's shrine has burned
In all my roaming;
This thought in many a heaving swell
Has bound me in its magic spell
To thee, sweet vale, beloved so well—
Wyoming!

Upon thy fields, so broad and green,
Lying in their changeful sheen,
The high, blue, circling hills between,
I have gazed when noon of day
With silent march had given way
To the softened, glimmering ray
Of early gloaming;
And wondered if Elysian field
Ever more delight could yield
Than thy landscape then revealed—
Wyoming!

Where the Red man's lofty clock; (1)
Rugged, grey, old Dial Rock;
Peers at fair Monockonock,
Or where crooked Susquehanna,
By the isle of Conhiganna,
Meets his sister Lackawanna
So wildly foaming:
Is there aught that can compare
With the beauty thou dost wear?
Can there be a scene so fair
Wyoming?

Sweetest valley! I would sing
All the thoughts that wanton spring
To soar away on fancy's wing—
Yes, I would light the sacred fire
To sweeep the strings of harp or lyre
In unison with heavenly choir—
With clear intoning—
I then would chaunt in wailings low
Of all thy trials and thy woe
That day, one hundred years ago—
Wyoming!

See the silent, blood-stained stone
Once with murdered corpses strown:
Cruel Esther's transient throne,
Or Wintermute, where scenes of gore
In those trying days of yore
Crowned all bloody scenes before;
When sad the groaning,
Of thy children, rose in vain,
When their cries of want and pain
Swelled in terror o'er thy plain—
Wyoming!

For battle cry and bugle sound,
From hill to hill in mad resound,
Hath echoed o'er thy classic groun
From Forty Fort one Summer day
Thy sons marched forth with banners gay
To meet the foe in deadly fray:
Then at the gloaming—
Where those gallant heroes, where?
With will to do and soul to dare—
Died they for their country there
Wyoming?

Nor fretted vault, nor costly shrine,
Where gnarled yew and ivy twine,
Entomb those noble sons of thine;
But on thy face, so fair, outspread
Beside the river's silver thread,
With skies of azure overhead
So high endoming
A sepulchre, where daisies wave
Above the ashes of the brave,
Thy sons have found an honored grave
Wyoming!

Vale of my heart! I praise thee yet;
Thou peerless gem in mountains set
Whose pine-ridged tops the storm-clouds fret;
To thee alone my praise belongs:
Thou art the theme of all my songs,
While still the story of thy wrongs
With wild bemoaning
In mournful numbers erst again,
Brings back to mind the old refrain
Of all thy suffering and thy pain
Wyoming!

Though I may roam in future time
In many and many a distant clime
And gaze on scenes far more sublime:
Yet wheresoe'r I may sojourn,
Or wheresoe'r my feet may turn,
One flame will in my bosom burn
Through all my roaming:
A true Pole-star this flame will be;
A beacon light on every sea,
To turn my heart to thee, to thee
Wyoming!

(1) Campbell's Ledge, sometimes called Dial Mountain, a perpendicular cliff several hundred feet in height at the upper end of the valley, presenting a face bearing almost exactly North and South, is a noted landmark to be seen from all parts of the plain below, indicating 12 o'clock noon when the Sun is observed to be shining on its face.

# ORATION.

By Rev. Wm. P. Abbott, D. D.

In all ages and lands the unselfish heroism of those who have sacrificed for liberty and loved ones has been the kindling inspiration of eloquence, of poetry and patriotic fervor. It inspired the muse of Collins in his beautiful ode, "The sleep of the Brave;" it inflamed the enthusiasm of Chatham, whose favorite theme was the greatness of his country and the glory of her defenders; it evoked the majestic eloquence of Webster, and on Bunker Hill he marshalled the sturdy heroes of seventy-six in glittering array. It has stirred the hearts of those whose ancestors, a hundred years ago, dyed red Wyoming's soil with their life blood; and from the north and south, the east and west we have come on a pious pilgrimage to this ancestral shrine, and by the tomb containing their ashes, under the shadow of this shaft which marks it, we commemorate their struggle and their end.

It may be asked by some, What means this vast assemblage here? And why are Gertrude's, sons and daughters gathered here? And why booms the cannon, beats the drum and sounds the bugle blast, the grand address, too, that quivered on the morning air? And when we answer that here three hundred fell, among the noblest of the sons of man, we may be told that disasters have occured on sea and land, which in a moment's time have hurried to eternity more souls than the disimprisoned host who soared to heaven from Wyoming's battle field a hundred years ago, and yet their sad end

has secured their name and memory no such testimonial as this. Why should those who perished here, the victims of an ambuscade, with not even the glamour of victory over their fierce invaders to enfold their deeds with splendor — Why should these receive this ceremony, pomp and gorgeous pageant?

I answer, first; because this event of the nation's history was one of many that helped to steel the heart and nerve the arm of those composing the Continental army in their awful struggle with British servitude and savage fury.

In critical periods of great movements, have you noticed how often Providence has used some passing episode, apparently most trifling, to nerve the heart and stimulate the arm of their defenders and hasten on the victory? No Roman historian, at the time, thought the Crucifixion scene on Calvary worthy of a passing mention, but God has made Golgotha to flame with light, the hated cross, the rallying point of all the nations and the symbol of their advancing civilization. The sacred banner of the Moslem was once the red shawl of Mahomet, his scarf in battle, a screen in camp to hide the contents of his Grand Pavilion; but since his death that mantle has been to Islam, like Elijah's to Elisha, an inspiration and a power; its light has ever fired the Turkish heart and intensified its bloody zeal. As that banner to the Turks, so Wyoming, red with the blood of July 3d, 1778, was to the American army. The sturdy colonists saw, in the tragedy enacted there, their end if the foe could work his will, and from it came an inspiration inflaming their zeal, increasing their strength, spurring them on against the ranks of British regular, Hessian hireling and inhuman savage; half clad, half fed, sometimes with frozen bleeding feet, till at last at Yorktown the Lion of the Normans and the Cross of St. George went down before their starry banner and the freedom for which they sighed was won.

But more than this: We are here to-day because these slaughtered victims were our sires. Their record was brief and bloody, but their children need not blush as they peruse it. Not storied pages of the past, the voice of oratory, nor poet's moving strain reveal a brighter glory than that streaming from their faithful lives and tragic death. Demosthenes may talk of those who rushed upon distruction at Marathon, stood unflinchingly at Platea and slept in the tombs at Artimissium; Chatham may stir the English heart with recitations of valorous deeds wrought by their armies; Webster, calm, grand, sublime, from 'Olympus' Loftiest Peak' with thunderous eloquence, may laud the heroes of Bunker Hill, but we talk to-day of the heroes of Wyoming, our fathers, who in the purity of their lives, the dauntlessness of their valor and the costliness of their sacrifice, stand shoulder to shoulder with the greatest warriors who have ever wielded gleaming blade or shouted for the battle.

And yet, it is not mine to linger here. The fitting, rich and elegant eulogies paid their memory this morning, by those so honorable of their descendants:—Wright, our orator and statesman, Chapman, whose manly utterances have made our hearts to glow; the studious Jenkins, whose research has this day culminated in a historic narrative which will immortalize his name; the classic Dana, just fitted for every sphere in which he has been placed, from where waved his warrior plume at Vera Cruz, and Cerro Gordo, to where he stormed and carried El Pinal's pass and entered Mexico, down to the more recent struggle crushing out rebellion, where he exchanged the eagle for the star; as gifted at the bar as on the field, while from the bench he comes with his judicial ermine pure. These have paid the richest tribute to ancestral worth. Be it mine to dwell upon the fruitage of their toil.

From the beginning, humanity has reached the highest conditions of civilization only through ordeals most terrific. Indeed, the law of all advance in civilization,

morals and religion, is this, "Through much tribulation." Perhaps, standing where I do, so near the anniversary of our nations birth, it may not be inappropriate to illustrate this thought by referring to her struggles past. We look out over our fair heritage, extending, says the lamented Duncan, from where God's perpetual bow of peace glorifies Niagara's cliff, to our southern sea-girt line, where Divine blessings makes it seem an Eden of beauty and perfection; from Plymouth Rock, where the Eastern song of the sea begins its morning music, to the far off Pacific, where the tides murmur an evening benediction upon our beloved land as they roll out neath the setting sun. A vast territory twenty-six hundred miles in length, and twenty-four hundred miles in width, possessing every variety of climate from polar snows to tropic heats, and in it all, we glory. We look upon our government founded by men like Washington and Jefferson, developed and preserved by those like Clay, with his electric fire and impassioned eloquence; the clear, terse, logical Calhoun, who, Tell-like, always cleaved the apple with the darts of his well filled quiver; and honest Lincoln, who, while securing the interests of one race, redeemed another. All greater statesmen than Greece or Rome could boast of, even in their palmiest days; and of this government we are proud.

We look at its resources from the anthracite and iron of our old Keystone state, to western rivers whose sands are mingled with gold, and to western mountains so tinctured with silver that they glimmer in the moon,s pale ray and the western prairie, the world's harvest field and granary; at the inventive genius of its inhabitants made manifest in machinery for steam, driving the leviathan of the briny deep, and palaces more gorgeous than Cleopatra's barge on all our inland waters; making iron horses to chase each other wildly throughout all our borders, and in every form of wonder, from that which captures the firey lightning's flash to imprisonment of

sound and articulations of the phonograph; we look upon our educational system interwoven with the life of our republic; our churches, smoking altars where the incense of the nation rises unto God both day and night; our open Bible, the palladium of our liberty; our forty millions of population, who in spite of agitation caused by demagogues were never, for a generation past, as united under, nor allied as firmly to our constitution as to-day.

And as all this, the vastness of our territory, the stability of our government, the greatness of our resources, the splendor of our institutions, our scholarship and religious freedom, together with the world-wide respect our flag commands—as all this passes before our vision we sing:

My country 'tis of thee,
Sweet land of liberty,
Of thee I sing;
Land where our fathers died,
Land of the Pilgrim's pride,
From every mountain side,
Let Freedom ring.

But let us ask a question here. From whence all this? Was this Eldorado, looming up between the seas, all green and golden amid the dashing billows, the acme of perfection both in territory and government; was this the home our fathers found when first they breasted oceans fury in search for freedom? We answer, No!

To-morrow I am told will witness,—passing through the streets of Wilkesbarre, marshalled and led by one of her truest sons, the noble Stanley Woodward—a grand procession symbolic of all interests connected with Wyoming's history from the beginning. Let me antedate that panorama with another, if less interesting, only because less graphically portrayed, but showing some scenes through which this nation has passed on her way to the position she occupies this hour

Time, the tireless weaver, has been taking into his great loom the hours, the days, the weeks and the months of storied past, and from them throwing off the product

in all the years which mark our history, all of them eventful, and yet as one star differeth from another star in glory, so the years of our history have differed. Some stand out with sublime distinctness like lofty mountain peaks, and from their summit we behold a landscape fraught with intensest interest to all before me. Let us scale a few, and from their brow watch this nation in its onward march. We are standing now on 1620, and looking Eastward we behold a band of men, the purest, sifted from European ignorance and bondage, embarking at Delft Haven, and from that Netherland harbor glides the Mayflower freighted with principles as well as souls immortal—principles which have struggled hard with Eastern tyranny and have been driven out to waken echoes from a bleak New England shore, to rise above the surging main and howling tempest of a Northern winter, to thrive amid the perils of most fierce disease and fiercer savage foes till at last they culminate in liberty civil and religious. And now ascend another peak. It is 1776. The little one has become a thousand. Out of that feeble New England colony and other sisters of similar weakness, a host, three million strong arises along the Atlantic sea-board. But the oppressor's hand rests heavily upon them. Taxation grinds out hatred to the mother country and rude soldiery inflame the rankling fury of their wrath, until at last, at Philadelphia, the declaration to the world is made that these American colonies are free and independent. For six long years the suffering colonists wage a fearful contest against tremendous odds, until at last freedom comes. Through fire and blood, through battle and death, America is exalted a long way up toward the goal of a perfect civilization.

And now another mountain let us climb; it is that of 1861. For eighty years America has flamed up along the path of national greatness as no other country ever had. But a cloud was looming up athwart her sky. At first it was no bigger than a man's hand; it kept increas-

ing and the muttering thunder of its fury was often heard. Through compromise it would decrease for a little time, yet only to enlarge again, assuming each time greater dimensions than before. It was the gathering storm of the rebellion, generated by human bondage—at last it came. Battle fires where lighted over our plains and along our rivers, cannon mouthed their notes of death, musket answered musket, steel clashed with steel and patriot and rebel fell together in a common grave.

Four years the contest raged until at length the stain upon our otherwise fair history was washed away with blood, and up from the conflict this Republic marched, bearing aloft the same banner that had waved in triumph at Yorktown years before, with not a stripe erased nor star eclipsed, while from the bending pine tops of our northern boundary to where the orange and magnolia of Florida are blooming, from stern New England's coast to broad Columbia's flowery slope nought then was heard, nor is there now but one grand shout of universal liberty.

From whence this heritage, in extent so vast, in government so benign, in resource so rich, and in population so happy? We answer, out of tribulation. Her robes are pure indeed, but she has washed them in the blood of fathers, sons and brothers

What is true as to furnaces of trial through which this nation has been compelled to pass in order to see the splendid spectacle she exhibits to the world to-day is true of Wyoming Valley. Pause here a moment and survey the beauty of this far famed vale. All around it, as if for walls of stony defense, rise mountains, modest allies of the Alleghenies, from whose summit their distant peaks are visible. Its territory twenty miles in length, from four to five in width, is that of fertile uplands and rich alluvial flats. Over all its fields the ripening harvests wave, or else the yellow glebe bespeaks them gathered, while through it winds the Susquehanna, with waters pure and limpid as those that gladdened Eden when earth

was pure and God walked and talked with man. Its silvery rippling waves flowing between the floral borders, on march to the distant sea, murmur more distinctly now as if anxious that their music shall swell the chorus of mellifluous host who by their side in sweetest song, recite this day Wyoming's trials and her triumphs. Here rise a line of villages from Exeter, still keeping watch and ward over northern entrance, to Pittston, divided by the stream, on one side lovely as a poet's dream, and on the other bearing marks of industry and rich reward; next comes Wyoming and Old Forty Fort, the theatre of the awful tragedy we now commemorate, and Plains, the home of men whose names and deeds add lusture to our history; while Nanticoke still watches the Southern Pass. In the midst of all a beauteous queen arises; her throne is one of splendor, her robes of gold and purple are from the loom where industry and love both weave; her crown is set with gems, not plucked from others by war's rude hand, but from her own deep mines they came, polished by subterranean lapidaries in the dense darkness of her hills. Beneath her septred hand no sullen subject toils, but cheerful vassals sing and serve. Her offspring are of classic taste and manly courage, and of hospitality unbounded. In all her disposition we see the heroism of brave Wilkes combined with the generous nobility of æsthetic Barre, and thrilled with admiration for her worth we bow down and worship with the prayer that, while over her the blue sky scatters sunshine and distils the dew, while streamlets murmur down her wood-capped mountains and sparkling Susquehanna lingers at her feet, and her founder's deeds are an inspiration both to acts of charity and deeds of valor, Wilkes-Barre may shine on, Wyoming's Queen, the Empress of this lovely vale.

As all the beauty of this charming valley, so rich and varied, her soil prolific, her mineral wealth unbounded, a native population intelligent, with art and science facilitating their advance, annihilating distance, promot-

ing ease in travel, speeding on this thought, as all this lies spread out before us we ask from whence it came—and if fallen downward from the throne of God or upward leaped from the soft green-sward? Is this rich inheritance the accident of a single hour? We answer: No!

> Not through glory's myrtle arches,
> Not by grand triumphal marches;
> But by a pathway sad and dreary,
> And with footsteps worn and weary

has Wyoming reached the proud and coveted honors she so mdestly wears to day.

Mr. President: I wish I had the ability to do better the task I have undertaken, to present a picture of these peaceful homes, and God-like blessings, so that all might more fully appreciate their worth. Marc Antony when called upon to recite the tale of Cæsar's wrongs and tragic fate, felt himself alone unequal to the task, and so he held up before the eyes of Rome the rent and blood-stained mantle of the conqueror. "Look!" he said: "In this place ran Cassius' dagger through. Through this the well-beloved Brutus stabbed, and as he plucked the cursed steel away, mark how the blood of Cæsar followed it." Mr. President; as keenly as I feel my inability to do the work I have undertaken, I should be more embarrased still if left to naked facts, or alone to the resources of my imagination. But I have other help. No blood-stained garment worn by some sturdy hero of the past is mine to wave before you, but the place, the theatre where strong foes grappled and a tragedy was wrought, among the bloodiest of the world, is here. To this I point.

Here came the Eastern settlers—Here they halted. Here amid the stillness of forest wilds, its poverty and fear, they found a home. At first the days were dark. The war for independence demanded their strong men, and they freely gave them. The Pennsylvania claimants sought to drive them from their hard earned substance; and so amid alternate hope and fear they came to the opening of 1778. That gifted orator and polished writer,

whose life for years was one of toil for the development of his valley home, a man loyal to every trust, no matter whether felling forest timber, making maple sugar, rafting down the Lehigh and the Delaware, the anthracite in which he had such faith, inditing at the editorial desk the sayings of Poor Robert, representing his adopted county in the Legislature of the state, writing the history of Wyoming, or standing by the side of men like Clay and Webster—his warm personal friends—pleading for the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia, and at the last, when bending beneath the weight of four score years and four, beholding in the emancipation proclamation the harvest whose seed he helped to scatter, shouted as the angel host stood waiting to convey him home: "Now Lord lettest Thou, thy servant depart in peace, for mine eyes have seen thy salvation."

Charles Miner, thus paints Wyoming in the opening of 1778.—The first bright beams of a January sun lighted a scene at Wyoming of white, cold, yet placid beauty; hill and dale were clad in virgin snow, the smoke rose curling to the skies from a hundred cottages, barns surrounded with stacks of wheat showed that the staff of life was abundant. Cattle and sheep, sheltered in rude sheds, sleek and thriving gave evidence that they shared in the superabounding plenty of those fertile plains; the deep-mouthed watch-dog barked fiercely at the passing sled drawn by a span of smart horses, with jingling bells, and filled with merry boys, and girls going to some wedding or quilting party. The flail sounded on the thrashing floor. The flax-break and hatchell were in active requisition. The spinning wheel buzzed its round, while the shuttle sped in its rapid flight. How peaceful and how quiet then. Yet it was only like the calm which precedes the fearful storm.

A few brief months are past and the strife begins. At Exeter, blows among the first, are struck by savage foes, and as they pluck the cursed steel away, see how the

blood of Harding and of Hadsall flows. And there is Forty Fort, the place of gathering when signal gun was sounded. We see it filled with terror stricken wives and mothers and brave men both venerable and young. The war council is at an end, the demand for unconditional surrender refused, the resolution passed to fight, if need be, to die, but to surrender never. And out they march that brave three hundred, to find a new Thermopylæ. Farewells are spoken, kisses waved by manly hands from lips never again to breathe the sainted name of wife and mother. Yet not there upon the open fields is all the suffering of the day; within the fort is anguish terrible. Here is the recent bride, her blushing beauty changed to ashy paleness, for every rifle's crack and savage yell seem but the death-knell of her love. And there I see the aged mother, listening for notes of victory and returning footsteps, to greet her hearing nevermore. Here smiles unconscious infancy, and wondering childhood prattles, and lisps forth questions concerning absent father, which pierce the heart of mother like the steel of bayonet and glittering sword.

But hark! Yonder the rolling drum, the fife's shrill notes, the rattling musketry all speak the opening of the fray. At first the enemy retires, but soon the Spartan band awake to the fact that they are dupes of Indian cunning, and panic seizes them. All around there rise a demon host. "No quarter for damned Yankees!" is their cry. Scalping knife, and tomahawk are dripping with their life's stream. Mutilated, dead and dying strew the ground. Grey haired sire and manly youth are alike disfigured beyond the recognition of the penetrating eye of love. Pillage and conflagration follow; the sky is lurid with the light of burning harvests and homes; the air is hot with flames. Humanity and mercy hide their face; fiends have an hour of triumph. This, this is but the carnival of Hell.

Yonder sleeps Monockasy—How like an emerald gem it rises now above the limpid water! Then it was a scene

of fratricidal murder and barbaric deeds. And there is Queen Esther's bloody Rock. The grass and flowers coquette so gaily with each other as this days' summer breeze bestirs them; then a spirit damned, in awful fury dashed down with war club the captured heroes of the hour. And other scenes are here all speaking of unrest, of toil and fearful sacrifice, and up from these and out of fire and blood and death this fair Arcadia, we call Wyoming, has come to us.

We stand to-day, where our fathers did a hundred years ago, but how great the change. They fought for liberty and a brighter future: we bask in the noontide splendor of their brightest anticipations. Like Moses on shining Pisgah, they looked forward to a rich inheritance: we have entered in; the corn, the wine, the oil are ours. Their's was the song of the sower treading in the furrow; ours is the jubilee of the reaper with the music of the waving harvest in his hearing. They looked onward, with expectant gaze to future blessings; we look backward over the winding paths of destiny, at Red Seas and Jordans whose obedient waters parted at their coming, showing that naught can hinder the onward march of those who step to the drum beat of Providence. One hundred years ago! why, every circumstance then was but a prophesy whose grand fulfilment is unrolled before us on this festal day. The wood fire on old andirons, around which the fathers gathered for rest and social cheer, was but a symbol of that now glowing from diamonds black, long buried neath our feet, but at last discovered and made to burn, by Fell; enriching those who followed, and populating the valley till the tread of dusky workmen, and the hum of busy industry have forever disturbed the pastoral quiet. The rude log huts in which the fathers dwelt, were only types of architecture that rises in palace grandeur on every side. The monthly periodical, which they so gladly hailed from their Hartford home, was but the harbinger of the thousand dailies, all flying like the wind, and welcome messengers at every

door. The lumbering stage coach, with its weekly round was a herald of the locomotive, which, with long white plume and startling scream, now climbs our splendid hights, while in his train we see the mirrored palace divesting travel of its weariness. While the postman's horn so sweet and clear, rising from the plains below, and upward leaping from crag to crag, from mountain peak to mountain peak, rousing from his lair the deer, and from his eyre the eagle, was only tempting the harnessed lightning's fame, to-day sweeping the chariot of our thoughts over the black wires yonder, the highway o'er which it dashes.

The noble dead whose deeds we this day commemorate, were but the advance guard of a mightier host, their children's children and descendants, mustered into service for this dyas willing march from Forum, Bench and Bar; from sacred desk and physican's noble toil; from honest yeoman's home and the halls of education; from merchant's counter and banker's desk; from editor's chair; from high rank in the army and where the navy floats; from all the walks, of busy honorable life; and at their head I see the children of the joint commanders of Wyoming's army a hundred years ago.—Steuben Butler, son of gallant Zebulon, highly honored this day, not alone because of royal parentage, but for his own intrinsic worth, with long and spotless life and venerable form he stands before us now, the embodiment of all that is good and true: and Sarah Denison Abbott, daughter of the chivalric Nathan Denison, and with saintly spirit, generous heart and character symmetrical, she seems as graceful now at four-score years and six, as when she bloomed in lovely maidenhood. Following these we have come to this sacred place to drop our tribute of respect upon the tomb of those who died for home and liberty.

But I must not linger, and yet before I close I would like to impress one thought upon the hearts of all who hear me. Perhaps I can the more successfully do this by

asking a single question. On what depends the perpetuity of national life and its attendant blessings, the fruit of our fathers' toil and blood? On wealth? No, for governments whose wealth was equal to that of "Ormus and of Ind" now only live in history and in song. On territorial acquisition? No, for Rome once thought this necessary to the preservation of her life, and under Julius Cæsar her eagles flew through Asia, reddened the Rhine with German blood, pursued the shattered army of the great Pompey into Africa, and made all the rivers of the Adriatic to roll along the sound of their victories; yet Roman glory paled before the Goths and Vandals. On military prowess, vast armies and brave chieftains? No! No man more thoroughly respects the army, from our Great Commander, Sherman, to the humblest private in the ranks, I revere them all. But when I find that notwithstanding the brazen clad hosts of Philip, and the mailed warriors of Xerxes, both Macedon and Persia have only fragments of ruined grandeur left, my faith in military power to preserve the nation is shaken. Nor can we hope for governmental perpetuity from far-sighted statesmanship, for Greece gave birth to Lycurgus and Pericles, Solon and Socrates, and others whose wisdom, purity and eloquence have ever been the admiration of the world. But Greece is now the tributary of a stronger power. Nor yet on intelligence may we depend. I know that knowledge is a balm for poverty and sometimes its cure; a solace in adversity, often drawing its envenomed sting; a critic of legislation often probing to the death unjust exactments; a bulwark against crime, and a help to its abatement, and because of this we glory in our free-school system which tends to the acquisition and diffusion of this knowledge. Yet not alone may we hope for the future of our country. The word of God is the corner stone, and its teachings the frame work of this republican temple, dedicated to civil and religious liberty, and as we hope for life, to this must we cling. Our Bibles,

not our statute books; our altars, not armies, are the deep, strong and lasting sources of our national prosperity. All the blessings resulting from a proper use of wealth, Christian statesmanship, territorial grandeur, and enlightened intelligent civilization, spring from this fountain. Remove this book and its influence from our midst, and the darkness of the middle ages, the darkness which covered France like a pall, during the "Reign of Terror," will settle down upon our nation. If we desire that our land shall furnish the novelist, the orator and painter, the wild romantic scenery of war, the march of glittering armies and the revelry of the camp. If we desire that anarchy and confusion, shall take the place of law and order; that jealousy and selfishness, hatred and revenge shall have full and unlimited sway in our midst, then let us ignore the truths and influence of the precious word of God. But if we desire the blessings of the present time to be perpetuated, to transmit the fair heritage, that cost our father's sacrifice and blood to our posterity; if we desire a record as a nation, such as shall honor God and bless mankind, a record whose smile might play upon an angel's face and whose tears would not stain an angle's cheek, then let us cling to the Bible with a scholar's enthusiasm, a Christian's hope and a patriot's love.

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Note—Rev. William P. Abbott, author of the foregoing oration, was a son of Stephen Fuller Abbott and Charlotte Miner Abbott, daughter of Charles Miner, the historian of Wyoming. He was born in old Wilkesbarre, now Plains township, about the year 1834—He was a popular and eloquent Divine of the M. E. church, and died at his post of duty in charge of a leading church in the city of New York soon after this, his last public appearance on any important occasion.

# WYOMING MASSACRE.

Historical Poem by Jesse Harding, whose grandfather was one of the proto martyrs of the Massacre, having been killed by the Indians, at Exeter, on the day prior to the battle. Read by Judge Dana.

LIFT thy mantle O Time! let us see what appears;
Read what is inscribed on the face of thy scroll,
The handwritings left by the flood tide of years,
A century's pages vouchsafe to unroll —
The phantoms of hopes and the rivers of tears
Which have gladden'd the spirit or crush'd out the soul;
The rulings of Fate, to demolish or spare,
Let us see, let us read, for our fathers were there.

Far down to the East, beyond mountain and glen,
Where old Ocean is stay'd by her rock serried shore,
Our forefathers landed, brave, resolute men;
It was freedom of conscience they sought and no more,
Their right to serve God as seemed best unto them,
Provide for their wives and their children a store;
Denied of these rights, unappalled, undismay'd,
They fled from the toils that Oppression had laid.

We must pass by an age to adapt and fulfill,
An age to expand, to build up and acquire—
See, now there are farms upon valley and hill;
Each vale has its schoolhouse, each village its spire.
And each little streamlet is turning its mill;
And all seem as touch'd with the finger of fire.
Connecticut, filled to the point of unrest,
Is already telling her sons to "go West."

The old road to Empire; they follow'd the track
By the dim, fading paths the natives had made,
Made Wyoming vale their first point of attack,
By feeling their way through the forest's dark shade;
Their worldly possessions they carried by pack,
By horse, or by cart, as necessity bade
Came not to destroy, like the Vandal or Hun,
But each brought his school books, his bible and gun.

Their axes and other rough tools were at hand,
Such arms as men use in the battle of life,
To build them log cabins and clear up their land,
And make the way pleasant for children and wife.
The wild and the wayward were kept in command,
Their oil was pour'd out on the waters of strife;
In the right ever ready to dare and defy,
Their faith and their powder were always kept dry.

Like old Cincinnatus, to farm was their trade;
All soldiers and statesmen, both little and great,
Ever true to their precepts, they fought as they pray'd,
And laid deep and wide the foundation of state.
They wore well their honors, their titles display'd
"Gen'ral" or "Corp'ral" there was nought to abate.
In political fervor somewhat in excess,
"Town meetings" their Congress, the "town tree" their press.

Our grandmothers, O may their spirits still rest,
And over their dust may the verdure still bloom—
God's gifts to our grandsires, the first and the best,
They lift up the way through the forest's dark gloom;
Their hands were at home on the coat or the vest;
They work'd with a will at the wheel or the loom;
Well skill'd in the arts of each feminine trade,
The wheel was the organ those ancient dames play'd.

Ever ready to chide, to advise or to teach,
Good Puritan maxims they have at command;
Their knitting work seldom gets out of their reach
And household utensils are always at hand;
Their cakes and their pies are most excellent each,
Their "baked beans and puddings" the best in the land;
Each claims the first prize for the best pumpkin pie,
And the best smoking loaf of Indian and rye.

Improvements went onward; the highways and farms,
The church and the schoolhouse, the bridge and the mill,
The march of mind's culture, society's charms,
Each, all had their office and end to fulfill;
But Rumor arriv'd, with her stock of alarms —
A voice of foreboding she'd heard on the hill—
And borne by the winds, as a sound from afar,
Came the yell of the Indian, the mutt'rings of war.

In the Spring of seventeen seventy-eight
War clouds in the North had begun to expand—

Loom'd on the sky like the frownings of Fate,
  And roll'd their dark volumes in gloom o'er the land—
The war song was chanted both early and late—
  The Indians and Tories menacingly stand
All led by John Butler, [1] and looking this way
With the glare of the tiger when scenting his prey.

But soon they came down like the wolf in the night,
  Stealthy and sly on their serpentine way,
Like spirits of evil, that shrink from the light,
  And are not to be found in the radiance of day
With guns, spears and hatchets, all ready to fight
  Whene'er they can steal unawares on their prey.
The first of their victims were some hapless swains
Who were hoeing their corn up on Exeter's plains.

They ambushed their paths and like beasts of the chase
  Lay crouching and waiting their prey to appear;
Two brothers, first caught, fired full in their face,
  And then bared their breasts to the hatchet and spear
They lost their own lives, but their friends fled apace
  By the warning they gave, and the promptings of fear.
Long time may Tradition be able to tell,
And point to the spot, where the Harding boys fell.

John Gardner was with them; he carried no gun:
  Surrendered—was spared with a margin of hope:
Was chain'd to a log till the battle they'd won,
  Then loaded with plunder and led by a rope.
And driven along till endurance was done,
  And nature with hardships could no longer cope,
Then fell by the wayside, to rest with the dead
Was tortured to death by the squaws, it was said.

The Hadsalls were ambush'd, and young James was shot:
  The rest were all captur'd and sent to their fires, [2]
Excepting boy John, who escaped the hard lot
  By hiding himself in the willows and briars.
But when they arrive at the dark, gloomy spot
  The death whoop is sounded and vengeance requires
More blood; old James Hadsall is hurl'd to his rest;
A poor negro, [3] butcher'd, was thrown on his breast.

The foe reach'd the valley at Wintermute's Fort,
  Where treason and traitors had brought them by night.
The land was convuls'd at the fearful report—
  Men, women and children were whelmed in affright;

'Twas all d're dismay, with uncertain resort,
Whether to surrender, to fly or to fight;
The men flew to arms, as they thought it was best,
And each mother clasp'd her babe close to her breast.

A council was call'd and the settlers appear'd,
To calmly discuss the great question at hand;
To tell what they thought, what they hoped and they fear'd,
To the end that some way of escape might be planned.
Some said hold the forts, whilst other some jeer'd,
Said No! we'll go forth and deliver the land.
Wrong counsels prevail'd—the rash had their way
And that was the cause why we've met here to-day.

On the third of July, a century this day,
Our forces came forward to do and to dare,
With music and banners in battle array,
To find and to drive the foe out of his lair;
But much to their cost they found him at bay,
And their own little army enclosed in a snare;
When the battle was joined, too late, 'twould appear,
They found themselves pressed upon front, flank and rear.

They charged on the foe with the might of despair,
For a time all their forces and terrors defy—
Did all that was human their cause to repair—
Gave back blow for blow, shot for shot in reply.
The odds were too great, weight too heavy to bear—
They falter, they waver, they break and they fly!
Each blood-spattered Fury slipp'd the leash from her pack,
And the kennels of Hell were let loose on their track!

Avert your eyes, Mercy, and shut up your ears
To the crashing of hatchets, the gleaming of knives,
The roaring of muskets, the plunging of spears,
The yells, and the scalps, and the last groan of lives
The regent of terrors, and monarch of fears
Are holding their revel till no Whig survives
The blood-snuffing vampires, drawn out of their lair,
With the gluttons of carnage are rioting there.

The battle is over; but near by remain
Some poor trembling captives, whose woes to advance
Are guarded around a large stone on the plain;
The queen of the demons presides at the dance;
At each round of the orgies a victim is slain,
And the yells of the devils Hell's terrors enhance

The blackest of all the black horrors of night,
Shut down the curtain, O God, from our sight!

The morn after the slaughter the fiends passed around,
Besmear'd and bespatter'd with blood and its stains;
With miens at once satisfied, grave and profound,
Whilst smoking from hatchets beclotted with brains,
Employing themselves, as they sit on the ground,
In cleaning fresh scalps from the flesh that remains,
And stretching them on little hoops to be dried,
To hang to their belts with grim, horrible pride.

I quote from my father,[4] then ag'd fifteen years,
At Fort Jenkins a captive, with many friends more;
'Mongst the wails of the orphans, the widows' hot tears
And the pranks of the Indians yet reeking with gore:
One drew on a woman's cap over his ears,
And placing her bonnet on wrong side before,
He grunted, "big Indian!" and yell'd as he run—
The rage of the demon had melted to fun.

By a brave was my father led up to a stump,
And black'd was his face with its charcoal at will;
Then he took from his girdle of paint, a red lump,
And mark'd out the warrior with fantastic skill,
Regarding his boy a success and a trump;
Brought down the crowd with a shout and a thrill
All yelling and pointing with barbaric glee,
"He little Indian! little Indian he!"

Another short episode here let me tell:
As our army came up, one soldier it seems,
Had imbibed quite too freely—stumbled and fell,
And slept by the roadside to fight in his dreams—
His foes in the "dreamland" to fall on pell-mell—
Not basking in glory's but Sol's fervid beams,
Rum's antics prevailing 'gainst all sorts of odds
And craz'd fancy breaking a lance with the "gods."

But a rush, and a shout, a rattle and din
Brought the slumbering Richard[5] half-way to his sense;
Without taking the whole situation quite in
He sat on his haunches beside the log fence,
And wondering much what the matter had been;
When Zeb Butler[6] rode up, (Dick scarce knew from whence,)
Said, "Dick, is your gun charged?" the answer was "aye."
"Then shoot that big Indian or Bennett[7] must die."

Dick drew a bead, "took the master good sight"
(So he always said, when the story he told,)
Down came the grim savage, to kiss and to bite
The ground, upon which he was suddenly roll'd.
Poor Bennett, exhausted almost, if not quite,
And bleeding at mouth, was unable to hold
Much further the course; the life race was run
The big Indian dead and Bennett had won.

Just one hundred years since and this smiling plain
Was sprinkled with blood, and, most painful to tell,
Was strewn with the mangled remains of the slain,
Whose bodies were left to decay where they fell -
To fester, and moulder, the ravens' disdain—
Their requiem "the war songs," the "death whoop" their knell;
Beset with wild terrors their children and wives
Were weeping and fleeing the land for their lives.

A century has wash'd all the blood stains away,
To-day all is peaceful, delightful and fair
No signs of the conflict, no marks of the fray;
Time has done well the sad wrecks to repair.
But memory lingers, as surely she may,
And Fancy sees omens and sights in the air
The voice of their anguish comes up from the ground,
And their wandering manes seem floating around.

Another Centennial and who will be here?
Who will be president, speaker or bard?
The republic remain, or an empire appear?
Our force volunteer, or imperial guard?
But we'll hope for the best and repudiate fear,
Make man's sacred rights our especial regard,
And trust the oppress'd of all nations may find
A resting-place here, the last hope of mankind.
Eaton, Wyoming county, Pa., July 3, 1878.

1 Commander of the British and Indians. 2 Night encampment. 3 A Guinea negro named "Quocko," slave of Captain Martin. 4 Elisha Harding. 5 Richard Inman. 6 Commander of the American forces. 7 One of the settlers.

# STRIKE THE LYRE.

Ode by Steuben Jenkins, set to music by Professor Coggswell, rendered by the Centennial Chorus of five hundred voices.

STRIKE the lyre in warning strain!
Wake the hearts of daring men!
Bid them for their country stand,
Guard their homes and cherished land!
Tyrants trampling on their rights,
Savage hordes whose presence blights,
March, their homes to desolate;
Bid them rise ere yet too late!

Strike the lyre in martial strain!
Rouse to action, valiant men!
See! they meet in battle's shock,
Meet as waves meet frowning rock!
Crushed beneath o'erwhelming force,
Carnage marks their flight's fell course.
Three to one the forces prove,
Three opposed to one we love.

Strike the lyre in mournful strain!
Let it peal a sad refrain!
Let its notes a requiem prove,
O'er the graves of those we love,
Martyrs for our liberty—
Dying that we might be free—
Honored be the patriot dead!
Glorious be their gory bed.

Strike the lyre in joyful strain!
Strike, O strike it yet again!
Let its joyful tones resound,
Let it echo all around!
Bid it tell of glorious deeds!
Bid it tell how freedom speeds!
Tell what gallant men have done
Tell how liberty was won!

Strike the lyre in dulcet strain!
Strike for all good-willing men!
Fruitful blessings on each hand
Flow throughout our happy land;
Perfect love in full accord,
Peace and plenty crown the board;
All from bondage now are free,
All rejoice in liberty.

## BENEDICTION.

This rendition concluded the exercises proper for the day. After which the following benediction was feelingly pronounced by the venerable and Rev. E. Ross Snowden, of Kingston:

Having rendered due honor to our worthy Chairman, and his distinguished associates, it devolves on me to close these impressive exercises and commemorative services by our giving all the Glory to God, to whom it is due, and receive his blessing.

Glory unto God the Father; Glory unto God the Son; Glory unto the Holy Ghost: One God, our God, our Father's God; our Country's God, and God over all—Blessed forever.

May the people praise Thee, O God! May all the people praise Thee!

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ; the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost be with you all. Amen! and Amen!!

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Thus ended a day long to be remembered in the annals of Wyoming's History, as the closing event of the first and the beginning of the second century after that disasterous event that befel our forefathers on the Plains in front of Fort Wintermute. The first, opening amid sorrow and gloom; the second, amidst auspices of hope, and bright promises for the future. May the end of the second, still find us as united, happy, and prosperous a people as to-day are preparing to celebrate our nations birth on the morrow.

## AN INTERESTING AFTER PIECE.

At four o'clock his Excellency, President Hayes, accompanied by Secretary Sherman, Attorney General Devens and Col. Dorrance drove to the big tent at the Monument grounds after the exercises proper were over A crowd of 4000 or 5000 persons yet remaining, they were very desirous of seeing and hearing the President, many of them having arrived after the speech of the morning. His Excellency was introduced by Col. Dorrance, when he said that he appeared there again in obedience to a request of many of his fellow citizens now before him. It was perfectly natural to expect the people to make such a request, and it was altogether proper for him to appear in obedience to such a request. He said he had taken occasion to say at former calls of this kind that he did not presume that it was from personal merit in him, but that it was to honor the office, no matter who may happen to hold it for the time being. He knew that it was human to err and that perhaps he made as many mistakes as most other men would make under like circumstances; but he was certain that when he did make a mistake he was apt to hear of it, and that the worst criticisms on his conduct were sure to be cut from the newspapers and sometimes sent to his wife, and then he was sure to hear of it in a decided manner.

After a few more pleasant remarks he said that now having got himself out of a difficulty he would take pleasure in introducing the Hon. John Sherman, Secretary of the Treasury, who he feared made even more mistakes than he himself did.

Mr. Sherman made some pertinent allusions to the event that had induced this immense and happy gathering of his fellow citizens, showing also that the experience of

the valley had been the experience of the people of every part of the country, where the Indians had been forced to retire before the inexorable logic of events. He then spoke of the wealth of the country; how the course of trade is causing a rapid and steady flow of our bonds from Europe to this country, and he hoped to see the day when they will all be owned by our own people in large and small amounts; and he wanted also to see the greenback currency equal in value to gold, and he would use his best endeavor to hasten that happy event. He concluded by saying that Attorney General Devens was here and as he was the orator of the cabinet he would gladly give way for the General.

General Devens said it was well known that Secretary Sherman was the best joker in the cabinet and this is one of his little jokes. The General spoke for a few minutes in a sensible and humorous way, and then said that the circumstances here reminded him of a little story—that of a Boston tallow chandler, who, after he had grown rich at the business concluded to retire from trade, but in so doing, stipulated with his successor that in order to keep him in mind of his old calling, that he might always attend the shop on melting days. And now, my friends, you see, said the General, the perspiration dripping from his face, I am with you here on a melting day, but I hope you will excuse me from enjoying this amusement any further. The Attorney General then closed his remarks, having made quite as good a joke as did the Secretary and perhaps better, for the General is really a fine talker.

The meeting then gave three rousing cheers for the President and Cabinet after which the party were driven to the station and took seats in the special train awaiting them, and were soon landed at Kingston, from whence they were driven to the Wyoming Valley Hotel, in Wilkesbarre and shown to the handsome rooms set apart for the use of the President and family.

## INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS.

The heat was so intense, and the crowd so utterly unmanageable that it was necessary to cut down the original program fully one-third, and it was with a feeling of relief that the adjournment of the morning session was heard. The tired thousands then sought food and shelter, the former on the grounds, the later in the cooling shade of the neighboring hillsides.

The number of persons in attendance can hardly be estimated, but it is supposed it was at least fifty thousand. The accommodations for entertaining this vast concourse proved utterly inadequate, lunch and refreshment booths, restaurants, sandwich wagons, etc., failing to bear the strain upon them.

A much needed provision for the sanitary well being of the people, was the hospital service appointed by direction of Doctors Hollister and Hakes, of the Executive Committee, and who named Doctors Crawford, Murphy and Davis as attending physicians—all of these gentlemen were on duty, together with other practitioners who volunteered their services. A commodious wall tent was pitched under a clump of apple trees affording a grateful shade; medical supplies, as well as a nurse also, being in attendance. An ambulance ran from point to point and by noon, nine persons had been brought in for treatment. The cases were not serious, being simply prostration by the heat, with the exception of two ladies who were somewhat injured by the crush in the Lexington tent. Their names were as follows:—F. W. Rice. Scranton City Guard; Michael Gorden, Ashley; Mrs. Finn, Pittston; Mrs. Johnson, Dallas; Mrs. Ide Lehman; Alexander, Scranton; E. W. Todd Scranton, and Josephine Thompson and Annie Heiss, of Newtown, the latter two were injured in the crush.

H Hakes

The monument modestly entwined with laurel wreaths, and guarded by a squad from Scranton Soldiery was the Mecca toward which visitors bent their steps throughout the entire day.

The rush that followed for the trains and ferries was a sight to be remembered.

Besides the Presidential and gubernatorial parties present already noted, were the following officers of the Governor's staff:—Gen. Coxe, Col. Scholl, Col. Compton, Col. Campion, Col. Jamison, Col. Knight and Col. Young, also Hon. Aaron A. Dunkel, of Phila; C. R. Buckalew Bloomsburg; Hiester Clymer, Reading; Andrew H. Dill Lewisburg; Wm. Bross, Chicago Tribune Co.; Col. Eugene B. Beaumont, U. S. A; Hon. H. A. Fonda, Milton; J. L. Steinmetz, Lancaster; Daniel Ermentrout, Reading; Hon. Jos. Powell, Towanda; Judge Elwell, Bloomsburg; Sheriff Layton, of Bradford county.

Several parties from as far up the river as Owego, N. Y. arrived during the day by boats.

As far as could be learned the following newspapers were represented. C. H. Hart, of the New York Herald; E. A. Mott, of the New York Times; Thos. Coleman, Philadelphia Ledger; J. H. Lambert, Philadelphia Times; Chas. Crutchfield, Philadelphia Inquirer: J. H. Britestool, Rochester Democrat and Chronicle; J. F. McGinnis, Williamsport Gazette and Bulletin; T. S. Welsh, Honesdale Herald; J. A. Scranton, H. A. Doud and J. E. Barrett, Scranton Republican; Wesley Johnson Scranton Daily Times; Drayton Lewis, Philadelphia Press; J. C. Powell, Shenandoah Herald; W. B. Keller, Wilkesbarre Leader; Fred C. Johnson, Chicago Tribune; G. M. Richart, Pittston Gazette; E. A. Parsons, Towanda Argus; Ben. H. Pratt, Wilkesbarre Record; Hon. C. B. Brockway, Columbian, Bloomsburg; W. B. Gallagher, Philadelphia Sunday Mercury; Mrs. M. L. Burns, Elmira Advertiser; J. S. Sanders, Hazleton Sentinel, besides many others whose names could not be learned.

The following named aged persons, descendants of early settlers, were in attendance at the commemoration:— Steuben Butler, son of Col. Zebulon Butler, aged 90 years; James Slocum of Brownsville, a nephew of Frances Slocum, the "Lost sister of Wyoming;" John Breese, Horseheads, New York, aged 88 years; Archibald Jenkins, Elmira N. Y., 86; John Elliot Wyalusing, Pa. 75; Jesse Harding, Eaton, Pa. 76; John Fassett, Mahoopany, Pa. 83; James A. Gordon, Plymouth, Pa. 82; Uriah Swetland, Eaton, Pa. 78; Alvan Dana, Missouri, 84; Elisha Blackman, Pittston, Pa. 88; John Clarke, Plains, Pa. 88; Mrs. Mary Jenkins, West Pittston Pa. 88; Mrs. Laura Carey Downing, West Pittston, Pa. 81; Sarah Denison Abbott, daughter of Col. Nathan Denison, aged 84 years; Mrs Mary Johnson Foster, Jackson Township, Pa. 81; Henry Roberts, Falls, Pa. 86; John Breese, Wyoming, 83; D. Gordon Dorrance, 68; John Gore, of Kingston Pa. 83; Mrs. Price (Miss. Cooper). Of other aged persons there were Hon. Asa Packer of Mauch Chunk, Pa. 74; John Raymond Esq. Scranton, 86; Dr Avery, of Chatauqua, N. Y. 75; John P. Rice, Trucksville Pa. 74; Abram Hunneywell, Wyoming 85; Peter Pugh, Forty Fort, 85.

In a temporary wooden building a short distance to the eastward from the monument, and which was honored by a tall flag staff from which the stars and stripes hung limp in the sultry air, was displayed the combined collection of Indian relics of Dr. Hollister and Steuben Jenkins, said to be the most extensive of any collection of a similar character in the country. These were arranged in two separate exhibits, one belonging to each of the gentlemen named. They were conveniently and tastefully arranged on shelves and tables over thirty feet in length, occupying both sides and the centre of the exhibition building. These relics were nearly all found in this locality and to the eye of the archæologist or student of the unwritten history of the aborigines of the country must possess unusual attractions; and when

taken collectively give an approximate illustration of the habits, manners and religion of the Indians in their primitive condition before the advent of the white man in America. Almost every weapon of war and implement of peace used by the Redmen, could be found in this combined collection.

In the same museum of the past were several articles of furniture that were rescued from Forty Fort, and among others the identical little walnut wood table upon which the articles of capitulation were signed.

No spirituous liquors were permitted to be sold on the ground, and though stands for the sale of that mild German beverage, lager beer, were numerous, there was an entire absence of drunkenness and its consequently disorderly effects any where, to be deplored.

About 500 musicians and singers sat down to a bountiful repast provided by the Association in a tent near the monument. For the comfort of the assembled thousands, water pipes had been laid in various parts of the grounds, and hydrants were placed at central points, where casks of ice water were to be found, which proved a great blessing to the panting and perspiring multitude.

Sprinkling wagons had been at work all the night of the 2d and the sandy roads in the vicinity of the grounds, were rendered comparatively free from the annoyance of dust which otherwise would have been the case.

No serious accident to life or limb occured in or about the grounds, or in the coming and going of the crowds of visitors.

Govenor Hartranft's staff consisting of Col Young Campion, Scholl, Knight, Compton and Jamison with Gen. Coxe, Chief of Staff were present in their gorgeous uniforms, and were duly photographed in all the pride pomp and circumstance of feathers and chapeaux as they sat in front of the tent assigned as their quarters in the Pettebone lawn. A group consisting of the President as the central figure, with Elisha Blackman on the right and

Genl. E. W. Sturdevant on the left, and Mr Pettebone a little to the left and in the rear of the General, and in the same line towards the right, appear G. M. Harding, Dr. H. Hakes, Sylvester Dana, Col. H. B. Wright and one of the "Noble Red Men" of the Onondagas; Henry W. Palmer peeps over the shoulders of the second row.

The program of decorations as previously submitted by the chairman of the committee on decorations was fully and artistically executed. The monument stood in its mute eloquence gracefully draped with a spiral wreath of emblematic laurel and oak from apex to pedestal, and with a laurel wreath encircling the marble tablet on which is inscribed the names of the martyrs of that disastrous 3d of July.

Over the gateway leading to the monument enclosure, was a triple archway surmounted with the words:

"E'en from the grave the voice of Freedom cries."

"E'en in their ashes live the Sacred fires."

On a piece of canvass suspended from an arch spanning the 100 feet wide road in front of the monument, was the inscription:

"Wyoming honors her patriot dead."

Over another arch was a portrait of Washington, and pendent the quotation from Chief Justice Marshall, slightly altered:

"First in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of all—1776."

On the opposite side was a portrait of the founder of our own Commonwealth, and the inscription:

"Peace on earth, good will toward men—1878."

Over the gateway leading to the memorial grounds was an ornamental archway bearing the inscription:

"Our Fathers died that Liberty might live."

All the residences on the road leading from the Rail Road Station, and in fact, all, anywhere within miles of the monument, were lavishly, if not tastefully decorated with flags and mottoes suitable for the occasion.

AN APOLOGY.

At one o'clock the proceedings were intermitted for an hour to enable the assembled multitude to partake of needful refreshments. At the opening of the afternoon services the following fervent Prayer was ably pronounced by Rev. Henry H. Welles of Kingston, a grandson of Matthias Hollenback, who was present and took part in the battle, being an Ensign in one of the most hotly engaged companies. This by accident, being omitted at its proper place in the order of exercises, is here inserted; its omission being one of those unpleasant "incidents" that some times befal novices in book making:

We adore Thee, all glorious Jehovah, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, as the Creator of all things, and the giver of every good gift. We thank Thee for granting a successful issue to the struggle our fathers made to secure civil and religious liberty for themselves and their posterity; we thank Thee for the unexampled growth of this nation in wealth and power; we thank Thee for our National Constitution and for star after star added to the galaxy on our flag; we thank Thee for the preservation of our Federal Union and the destruction of slavery; we thank Thee for just and equitable laws, the administration of which affords security to property and life; we thank Thee for our common schools and higher seminaries of learning; we thank Thee for the printing-press and its multiplied issues for the instruction of our people; we thank Thee for the wonderful and increasing facilities for the transmission of thought of persons and the results of labor; we thank Thee above all for thy Holy Word, the entrance of which giveth light; we recognize it as the corner stone of our liberties; we thank Thee for our churches and Sabbath schools, which are engaged in spreading the Gospel light over this land and over the world.

We pray for the continuance and growth of the institutions, founded by our christian fathers. Grant wisdom to

those who make and execute our laws; deliver us from political and social corruption; give increased favor to a just, humane and peaceful policy toward the remnants of our Indian tribes; stimulate all efforts to prepare our freedmen, as well as all foreign immigrants, for an enlightened christian citizenship; make our schools of all grades, disseminators of intellectual, moral and spiritual light; let not the public press become a corrupter of morals and a propagator of infidelity; deliver us from the machinations of the Commune and all other conspirators against the peace of society and the safety of the State; and, above all, pour out abundantly of Thy holy spirit upon all who hold the truth as it is in Jesus, that they may, with unflagging zeal, use all Scriptural means to evangelize the people of this land and of the whole world. Let not this nation, like those of antiquity, burthened with accumulated sins, have its decline and fall. May ours become growingly a christian people, sending forth to those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death, the glorious news of salvation by a crucified Redeemer. Hasten the time, so long the subject of prophesy and prayer, when the kingdoms of this world shall become the Kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ.

# CELEBRATION,

# AT WILKESBARRE,

JULY 4. 1878.

S JOY follows mourning, so the second day's services in Wilkesbarre partook more of an old fashioned 4th of July celebration, than the one that preceded it at Wyoming on the 3d. The city was full to overflowing with strangers on the night of the third, and the gay bunting that so conspicuously floated to the breeze in all the principal streets, was relieved by the dark green festooning that was so important a feature in the decorations, the whole scene being lighted up by thousands of gas jets in the various windows; and the four calcium lights placed at the four sides of the Court House tower, rendered North and South Main street and the East and West portions of Market street as light almost as at noonday. At intervals the principal druggists would display red and green lights in front of their stores giving a weird and unearthly glow to all surrounding objects. Little sleeping was done by the majority of the visitors, who had come for a few days of pleasure, and they were determined to make the most of their privileges. At sunrise, the battery of the Wyoming Artillerists under Capt. Thos. C. Parker, thundered forth their one hundred rounds as a morning salute, and all the bells in the city simultaneously sent forth their merriest peals to greet the natal morn of our nation.

Soon the people began to gather and each train on the several railroads brought in its cars over freighted with expectant humani y, who long before the hour of mid-day filled the streets to overflowing, and it would be safe to estimate the throng at, certainly not less than a hundred thousand souls, and it may have been even greater than that. At about eleven o'clock a gun from the Battery broke upon the still air, and the assembled pageant, consisting of seven divisions, began to move down River street in the following order:

First, the Wilkesbarre city police mounted on fine horses and headed by chief John W. Gilchrist; next Rieg's Band playing a patriotic air; after the music, chief Marshal Woodward and aids, fifty in number. Next, Maj. Gen. Edward S. Osborne and staff followed by the First Regiment Veteran corps of Philadelphia's Band in brilliant scarlet coats and white pantaloons, J. S. G. Beck band master.

Next came the Scranton Battalion, Col. Boies, two hundred and fifty strong, with a beautiful Gatling gun drawn by a pair of splendid gray horses, George Sanderson of Scranton, commander of gun squad. The Plymouth Cornet band, led by Editor Barthe of that Borough came next; close following marched the McClellan Rifles of Pittston, commanded by Capt. Ginley, accompanied by the Port Griffith band; and then the Wyoming Artillerists, Capt. Parker with their Battery of four effective six pound brass guns. This organization carried the old flag that they had when marching on to the "Halls of the Montezumas" in 1846-7; now a mere tatter, but enough of it left to show its deep blue ground and the arms of our beloved Commonwealth emblazoned thereon.

THE SECOND AND THIRD DIVISIONS,

Were united and consisted of the veteran corps and members of the Grand Army of the Republic, with Major Charles M. Conyngham and Col. Harry Laycock as mar-

shals, with mounted aids, and headed by the New Milford Cornet band. In this division marched the survivors of the Andersonville Prison, a melancholy array of brave men who had suffered perhaps the inevitable hardships of war as Federal Prisoners during the late interstate strife. Here came Capt. P. De Lacey at the head of the Veteran Soldiers Association of Luzerne; these were followed by a drum corps. A pleasant feature of the parade coming in here was the Grand Army Cadets, of few companies of boys enlisted and trained by Capt. Charles Brodhun.

### THE FOURTH DIVISION.

Composed of the various Fire Company organizations of Wilkesbarre and other places represented, was headed by Bristol's Band, and with Charles Law of Pittston, and Thaddeus S. Hillard of Wilkesbarre as marshals. The companies in line were the Franklin of Hyde Park, Liberty Hose Jr. of Providence, Rescue Hose, with Brother Jonathan as footman; the horses attached to the carriage were led by tastefully arrayed colored grooms, dressed in Oriental costume. At the head of the Eagle Hose from Pittston marched the Thistle Band, and Leonard's Opera Band leading the Niagara Hose, whose Engine was drawn by four beautiful white horses with trappings of blue. The Tunkhannock Band and Triton Hose company made a good display. Next came a company from Montrose, after which the Kingston Mechanics Band and Hose No. 1 of Kingston. Wyoming Hose No. 3 from the Empire mine and Columbia Hose of Carbondale followed, and then the Young Men's Silver Cornet Band of Pittston. These were all visiting companies. Of Wilkesbarre companies, were the Lanning Steamer No. 2; Mechanic Steamer Company No. 1; Hose No. 3, Eagle Hook and Ladder No. 5 and Hose Companies Nos. 6, 7, 8 and 9—Phinney No. 4 Engine Company of Green Ridge closed the Fire Division.

THE FIFTH DIVISION.

With Capt. James P. Dennis and Dr. Olin F. Harvey as Marshals, was composed of Civic and Benevolent Societies. Following ten mounted aids, was Dieu Le Veut commandary, Knights Templar of Wilkesbarre, and Cour de Leon commandary of Scranton in their gay uniforms, with Knightly badges and small arms, presenting a picturesque and martial appearance. Here followed a colored Band at the head of a small colored delegation.

THE SIXTH DIVISION.

Was made up of a series of historical tableaux, and was the feature of the procession. The marshals were George H. Parrish and James P. Dickson. This department consisted of ten subdivisions portraying in an striking manner the past, present and future of Wyoming. First came a delegation of Onondaga Indians, genuine sons of the forest, marching in the traditional Indian file: Next came a representation of the Count Zinzendorf in his tent, with a rattle snake crawling over his feet, two would be Indian murderers looking in at the opening, and who appear to be awe stricken at the spectacle—Here followed Mr. Hazletine's representation of the battle of Wyoming appropriately modeled in clay.

This was followed by a company of young men in the costume of revolutionary times. The Frigate Hornet mounted on trucks and drawn by four horses was manned by American Jack tars, and bearing several Quaker guns, with the traditional "Long Tom" as a bow chaser. The vessel was fully rigged and attracted a good deal of attention.

Shawney a hundred years ago, was represented by a domestic scene of the period, on wheels drawn by a span of horses and yoke of oxen harnessed to a heavy wagon. Another wagon showed "How we made cloth ninety years ago" in which a number of comely maid's and mat-

rons were engaged in spinning and weaving flax and wool into cloth for domestic wear. This represented the peace period.

One wagon represented a quaint kitchen scene, (they did'nt have drawing rooms in those days,) in which a number of people in the happiest of moods, caused a good deal of merriment to the lookers on, as they observed the fiddler close to the hearth furnishing most excruciating music for a number of young persons who were dancing away as if for dear life.

The "Threshing floor" came in for its share of admiration where two stalwart young fellows were pounding away in dead earnest, with real old fashioned flails on a quantity of straw spread on the wide threshing floor on wheels.

Following this was another wagon with a happy farmer and his son breaking and "scutching" flax on a scutching board and hackling it on a sharp toothed hackle. Next came an old grandmother drawing out the threads on an old fashioned "Little Spinning wheel" propelled by foot power, while the young belle of the neighborhood was fashioning stockings with busy needles. And then came a sight never seen before—a real "Apple Cut" on wheels, in which the country lads and lasses were having a jolly time of it, having disposed of all the "quarters" by hanging them up to dry on strings around the old fire place in which a wood fire was burning.

An old freight line over the mountains to Philadelphia was represented by the remains of an old Canestoga wagon, and the staging business over the same route by an old Stage Coach that had been used by Mr. Searle of Montrose, more than fifty years ago.

The Mexican war was illustrated by a detachment of veterans who had served in the war, known as company K, consisting of Capt. E. L. Dana, Lieuts. Robt. Klotz and Henry Coppee; Sergeants Thomas R. Crellin, John W. Pryor; Corporals D. C. Kitchen, Joseph Heilman; Privates

Edward Remel, Edward R. Blaine, E. N. Banks and William Wilhelm. These were the titles borne by the gentlemen named while in the service in Mexico. With the party was a genuine Mexican, E. L. Granados, dressed in Complete Caballero costume and Armature, Lance, Lasso and all. A Mexican flag, captured at the Garita de Belen was carried in this procession.

The first attempt of Jesse Fell to burn anthracite coal in an open grate, made in this valley February 11th 1808, was admirably represented in the parade.

The Brooklyn Band of Susquehanna County, had the honor to lead a tableau representing the future of Wyoming, and as our future is undoubtedly shrouded in mystery, so was this emblematic representation, being about as unintelligible as are some of the tea leaf fortunes that old ladies forecast with so much accuracy in their cups.

A team of sixty mules ridden by driver boys, and hauling a mine engine in full motion, belonging to the Lehigh and Wilkesbarre Coal Company, mounted on heavy trucks, and attached to two loaded coal cars, was supposed to typify the new order of things to follow the labor of mule power in the mines; a disconsolate looking mule thirty years of age, that had worked in the mines at this work twenty-six years was the precursor of this new motive power which was labeled "Old Tom's Successor.

Then followed a miniature coal breaker in full operation, which terminated the historical parade.

### THE SEVENTH DIVISION.

This illustrated the business interests of the valley, with Col. W. N. Monies and Joseph W. Patten as marshals with mounted aids.

The display of the Dickson Manufacturing Company was mounted on three heavy wagons. The first drawn by four horses showed a large pile of patterns for machinery castings. Next a wagon showing the company's

foundry at work, and the other wagon showed boiler makers at work closing rivets up and banging away on the hollow iron cylinders.

Wire rope making was illustrated by the Hazard wire rope company, borne on heavy wagons, showing a pyramid of wire rope of all sizes and patterns as used in and about the hoisting machinery of the mines and elsewhere from the heaviest cable tapering up to small ropes pile l up in coils.

Almost every business man in the city of any prominence exhibited a wagon loaded with the goods of his line in tasteful and profuse displays.

Mr. Robert Baur had a printing press and book bindery hard at work. The Leader also had a press throwing off slips as the procession passed along.

Isaac M. Thomas had Wright's (now Miner's) mill pictured as it appeared in 1795.

One car represente l Ceres, the fruitful, in which were a number of little girls mounted on elevated spangled seats, and bearing in their hands sheaves of wheat, this was a pleasant feature in the parade.

The last of the tableaux was a dairy with churns in operation and oleomargarine at a discount.

It required over an hour for the procession to pass any given point, and after traversing the route as laid down in the program, it was conducted to the Wyoming Valley Hotel on River Street, where on a stand erected on the opposite side of the way next the river, the grand procession passed in review before the President, Attorney General Devans, Secretary Sherman and Governor Hartranft and Staff; the various Sections cheering as they passed the Presidential position. The President, with hat in hand, bowed his acknowledgments, and expressed gratification at many features of the parade.

The crowd now was so great that it was with difficulty that the President and other high dignitaries could return to the Hotel, where in response to repeated calls for

"the President" from the excited, but good humored crowd, His Excellency ascended to the balcony and spoke about as follows:

"My friends, if it were at all possible for my voice to reach any considerable portion of this grand gathering, I would gladly gratify your desire to hear me speak. I desire to express my gratitude to this vast assemblage of the inhabitants of Wyoming, for the splendid reception we have received."

I understand it however to mean not a personal compliment to any one individual, but that you, by your actions honor the Nation and the flag of liberty; in your respect for the President, forgetting all distinctions and parties, and if need be, to stand up for our flag as your fathers did one hundred years ago.

Yours is not an obscure portion of the great National Commonwealth. Its story is known throughout the length and breadth of this broad land; yes, wherever the English language is spoken, and from my earliest boyhood I have had a desire to look upon a valley so renowned in song and story, and so rich in the material elements that go to strengthen the nation both in peace and in war. I am not surprised that you are proud of this noble inheritance, purchased by the blood and suffering of your ancestors, I am glad that I am here to unite with you in showing honor to the memory of the brave men of one hundred years ago, and to rejoice with you, on this, the day of the Nation, whose destinies, I for a brief space am called upon to administer."

This was followed by prolonged cheering, after which Governor Hartranft, in response to loud calls for the Governor, stepped to the front, and briefly thanked the multitude most heartily for the reception which had been extended to our guests, the President and a portion of his Cabinet on this auspicious occasion, in this beautiful and far famed Wyoming.

He also in behalf of the Commonwealth whom he, as

chief executive had the honor to represent, took pleasure in announcing that the strife that once existed between the early settlers of the Valley and the Proprietary goverment of William Penn, is now happily allayed forever, and that the descendants of the Yankee and the German elements are now blended in a homogeneity of fraternal love, mutual fellowship, and kind regards.

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## ODE.

Keller's American Hymn. Words by Caleb E. Wright, Esq., of Doylestown, Pa.

Sun of the East! in the century old,
  Here stood our fathers to greet thee at morn;
Von mountain peak gleamed in crimson and gold,
  Morning dews drinking from meadow and corn.
  Waking the bird-hymn in bramble and thorn.
Drums beat to arms! and war's colors unfold!
  Swell the stout hearts to the trumpet and horn!—
Foemen are nearing to circle the fold.

Sun of the noon-day! how lurid thy beams;
  Blood-tides are tinting among the green pines!
Sabres 'mid summer leaves mingle their gleams,
  Dun clouds hang over the wavering lines—
  Death plies his sickle along the red lines!
Mohawk and Tory commingle their screams—
  Flag of St. George round the tomahawk twines!—
Victims of slaughter are yielding life's streams.

Sun of the West! turn to look o'er the plain—
  Mothers and maidens are flying in dread!
Gory the field of our patriot slain,
  Horrid the revel o'er patriots dead—
  Palsied the hand that dishonors the dead;
Torture exulting in ruin's wild reign,
  Faggot and torch on their banquet are fed!—
Sun of the West! turn to weep o'er the plain.

## IN THE NAME OF CHARITY.

A free dinner to the worthy, and perhaps some unworthy poor, who attended the celebration of the Centennial was served in a building erected for the purpose on the old graveyard lot near the corner of Market and Washington streets. An efficient corps of waiters was on hand, composed of some of the best citizens of Wilkesbarre, who volunteered for the occasion, and thanks to the liberality of the people, there was an abundance of substantial food, and none went away hungry who sought to be fed. About a half an hour after the procession had disbanded the doors were thrown open and the hungry were invited to enter; but for the purpose of preserving order, and that no imposition might be practiced by the undeserving, none were admitted to seats at the table unless provided with tickets which were distributed gratuitously to such by a committee in charge, consisting of Francis M. Nichols, Thomas R. Martin, George R. Wright, Albert S. Orr, George A. Wells and Daniel L. O'Neill, Esqs., and Reverends Father O'Harran of St. Mary's, Theophilus Jones and J. D. Griebel. The hearts of many hundreds of all sorts and conditions of the children of the lowly were thus made glad on this joyous occasion, who but for this thoughtfulness on the part of some of our young men in providing for their wants, otherwise might have been compelled to go hungry amid all the festive display provided for more favored visitors, but which unfortunately for these, their means might not have permitted them to enjoy.

## AFTERNOON EXERCISES.

Shortly after 4 o'clock the Presidential party was conveyed to the lower end of the Common, where an immense crowd had gathered in anticipation of further sight seeing. Col. Dorrance introduced General Henry M. Hoyt, who at once assumed the duties of presiding officer, and thanked the people in the name of the various Committees of the Association for the good order maintained as well as for their devoted patriotism.

As an opening of the ceremonies to be observed at this point, the Rev. Denis O'Harran, Priest of St. Mary's Parish, of the Catholic church, Wilkesbarre, offered the following eloquent peroration and able prayer:

Yesterday we assembled to commemorate an event, of one hundred years ago; an event, in which the manly and heroic bravery of the pioneers in this valley shed a halo of undying lustre, not only upon the names and memory of the noble actors therein, and this fair valley now smiling before us in the bright verdure of early summer, but also over the whole country and the civilized world wherever the English language is spoken, and the story of the wrongs perpetrated by the Briton and his savage allies became known. Therefore it well becomes the descendants of these brave men and martyrs in defence of homes and all which men hold dear, and of us, who are but successors in the land which they suffered so much to defend, to meet together at the beginning of this, the second century after that fatal day, and do honor to, and cherish their memories in this public and demonstrative manner. Such devotion to country and home should ever be held dear by all true patriots throughout all lands, and cherished and respected at home and abroad. And they will be loved and cherished by millions yet unborn, because their names will continue, grandly, and unerringly to travel down the golden stream of history and tradition, growing brighter and more bright as they descend into the dim future, till at last

they will be emblazoned and fixed on the high firmament of American fame. We to-day commemorate their glorious deeds in defending the National honor, their homes, their wives and little children. This was a duty enjoined by God upon man, for do we not read that great was the honor conferred upon David for fighting the battles of the Lord? God has given unto all men the inalienable right to defend their lives, their honors and their country. Who is there then that would not unite in commemorating such deeds of valor, irrespective of color, country or creed?

What a happy coincidence. Yesterday's commemoration, the eve of this glorious festive, and ever welcome anniversary of the 4th of July, when we all meet and rejoice with one patriotic pulsation of heart in celebrating the new *Magna Charta* of American liberty, the declaration of Independence; not extorted from a terrified monarch by the great Barons of the land, as was the first, wrung from King John at Runnymede; but our charter was the spontaneous act of the entire people of the colonies who had determined no longer to remain slaves to Great Britain, by asserting their liberties and successfully maintaining them, even at the cannon's mouth.

To conclude this happy occasion we have met here this afternoon. This will long be remembered as a red letter day in the history of Wyoming, as not only the sons of the pioneers are gathered together, and the dwellers in the land whose coming hither was of more recent date; but we have with us here the President of the United States, the head of this great and prosperous Nation, to do honor to the occasion. We have also the Secretary of the Treasury, thus uniting the purse and the sword of this mighty people: we have the Attorney General of the United States to advise us as to the law of the land; and we have the Governor of our own beloved commonwealth reminding us that the strife that once divided the Yankee element of the valley on the

one hand, and the Quaker element, representing Proprietary government of the Penns on the other, and in whose fatal contests for the right of jurisdiction these fair fields were often dyed red with fraternal blood. I say we have him here, as the head of the now united factions to remind us that this strife has long since been happily ended forever, and in a manner in which neither can claim to have triumphed over his adversary. This was the result of the wise and humane compromising measures adopted by the commonwealth at a later day.

Let us therefore unite in the name of one true, living and Eternal God, in the faith, love and knowledge which should possess and pervade the heart and soul of any child of Adam, in the beginning and end of all his works, both temporal and spiritual. Having thus passed over the sometimes rough passage of the last 386 years, to this eternal principle whose protecting hand and sleepless eye guided and watched over the hardy mariner, the persevering genius, Christopher Columbus, we bow in adoration to God, and in imitation of the successful discoverer, who, having no sooner safely landed upon our shores, than he and his little crew of tempest tossed explorers, under the refreshing shade of a spreading palm of the tropics, raised the symbol of redemption, the sign of salvation to man, the Cross of Christ, and offered Christian sacrifice to the true and Eternal God; let us even do likewise on this auspicious occasion. We assemble here to-day in the name of the same God, the God of our fathers, the true and eternal God over Heaven and Earth, and bow in humble submission to his Divine Majesty, will and law. We unite in harmony, peace and charity around a common centre of eternal justice; around the Chief Magistrate of the Nation, the President of the United States, the common father of us all as citizens; to return our sincere and grateful thanks to Almighty God for all the favors and blessings which he has in his infinite mercy bestowed upon this

country and people in the past, at the same time to beg his Divine protection to continue to rest upon us.

O Sovereign Lord, to whom all the Kingdoms of the earth are subject, and under whose protection they are safe, we invoke for this nation Thy Divine protection. We invoke and pray Thee O God of infinite power, through whom authority is rightly administered, laws enacted and judgments decreed, to assist with Thy Holy Spirit of counsel and fortitude the President of the United States, that his administration may be conducted and maintained in righteousness and be eminently useful to Thy people, over whom he presides, by encouraging due respect for virtue and religion; by a faithful execution of the laws in justice and mercy; and by the restraining of vice and immorality.

Wilt Thou, O Lord, of Thy Divine Wisdom, direct the deliberations of Congress, and shine forth in all the proceedings and laws framed for the rule and government of this people, so that they tend to the preservation of peace and the promotion of impartial national happiness; the increase of industry, sobriety and useful knowledge: and may perpetuate to us the blessings of liberty. We also pray for His Excellency, the Governor of the State of Pennsylvania; for the members of Assembly; for all Judges, Magistrates and other officers in authority, who are appointed to guard our political welfare, that they may be enabled by thy powerful protection to discharge all the duties of their respective stations, with honesty and ability. We recommend to thy unbounded care and mercy all our brethren and fellow citizens throughout the United States, that we may be all blessed in the knowledge, and sanctified in the observance of thy most holy law; that we may be preserved in that union and peace which the world cannot give. And after enjoying His blessings in this life, may be admitted to enjoy those blessings which are eternal in the life to come.

Praise the Lord, ye children, praise the name of the Lord.

Blessed be the name of the Lord henceforth and forever; from the rising of the sun to the going down of the same, the name of the Lord is worthy of praise.

Praise the Lord all ye nations; praise him all ye people, for his mercy is confirmed upon us, and the truth of the Lord remaineth forever. Amen!

After which President Hayes was introduced to the audience amid loud cheering by the multitude in attendance. The President, after apologizing for not having a prepared speech, spoke for a short time in an off hand manner, and drew a favorable contrast between the periods 1778 and 1878 in the valley, remarking that the procession of the morning had anticipated this, in a manner that appealed more strongly to the senses than any words at his command could possibly do. He said this celebration, commemorative of the virtues of the pioneers of a century ago, and anticipatory of the pioneers in the west and the south west, whose experiences are even now being woven into the woof of future history, are identical. He then referred to the Indian problem, and in substance his speech was mainly a repetition of what he had said at Wyoming on the 3rd. Governor John F. Hartranft was then introduced and spoke for a few minutes, occupying about the same ground as the President.

Ex- U. S. Senator Charles R. Buckalew, was introduced and spoke for a short time on the ever recurring theme "Wyoming", its original meaning in the language of our Indian predecessors. He said it is asserted on what appears to be authority, that the word Wyoming, as pronounced by the Indians, signified "Big Plain," and Susquehanna, our beautiful river, "The river of the winding shore," a name at least peculiarly applicable to the Susquehanna.

Henry W. Palmer read the Declaration of Independence, as no Fourth of July celebration would be complete without that service.

Secretary John Sherman pronounced a high eulogium on this immortal document, which he held to be in importance second to the Holy Scriptures only. It was the birth and dawning of liberty all over the world. It regenerated France through that terrible revolution, which perhaps was necessary, as desperate cases need desperate treatment, and under the almost insane and demoniacal measures of Danton, Murat and Robespierre in their newborn zeal for "Liberty", despotism in France went down with the XVI Louis, never it is hoped to rise again in our Sister Republic. Mr. Sherman then spoke on the present state of our country and its finances and the efforts being put forth in the Treasury Bureau to make every promise to pay of these United States as good as gold coin of equal face value. In conclusion he said we are not a nation of paupers, but the richest nation in the world; winding up his remarks with a few complimentary notices of our Valley, and saying that he would return to his work, refreshed and encouraged.

Attorney General Devens was the next speaker, and in a few brief remarks pointed out the close community of interests existing between the people of Massachusetts and this valley, saying that he was gratified in finding so great a similarity between them, even to the names of the citizens here and in his native State.

Hon. Sylvester Dana, as a preface to the following address, exhibited a life size oil painting of Gen. John Sullivan, whose name is so intimately associated with the history of this valley in consequence of his expedition of 1779, while on his way to chastise the Indian Tribes living on the Chemung and about the small lakes in the State of New York, which had been loaned by the Governor of New Hampshire, and brought hither for exhibition on this occasion—:

## ADDRESS.

It is with indescribable staisfaction that I have been able to come down from New Hampshire and be with you on this occasion—to behold for the first time this glorious valley, where my ancestors lived and suffered, and to hear a rehearsal of their virtues, their achievements and their misfortunes. This view, so long desired, I expected, in the language of the poet, "to die without the sight."

From my father I learned in early life concerning many of the localities hereabouts—all included in the town of Westmoreland, that more extensive town than ever existed on this or any other continent, which his father, Anderson Dana, represented in the Connecticut Legislature, returning to this place on the day before the battle to take part in it and to die.

My father often described to me how at the Wilkesbarre Fort, on this very spot, on the 3d day of July 1778, he anxiously listened to the rattling of musketry upon yonder battle field; how, on the day after the disastrous result, being nine years old, he fled with his mother and the family towards Connecticut; how the party of some twenty, wearily pursued their march into the night and into the morning; lest they should be overtaken by the Indians; how the only man in the party followed behind the exhausted children, freely applied the rod to them when they faltered and fell asleep in their tracks; how they suffered from hunger, the loss of shoes and other privations as they crossed the mountains before reaching the Hudson; how they were once aroused from their welcome repose in the wilderness by howlings which were supposed to emanate from a band of ferocious and blood thirsty savages, but which on investigation gave them the comforting assurance that they were only uttered by a less ferocious and less bloody pack of wolves. And how at length they reached Connecticut, where scattered among friends, they passed the remaining days of child-

hood, and in after years not a few of them, (including my father and two of his brothers) returned to this desolated Valley and commenced life anew. But omitting further allusion to those sad events, I now inquire who delivered this fair Valley from the thraldom in which it was involved? Who crushed out the Indian murderers, and broke forever the power of the Iroquois confederation? All this was achieved, as you well know, under the auspices and command of an eminent citizen of New Hampshire, Maj. Gen. John Sullivan, of whom it is peculiarly appropriate on this occasion to make mention.

John Sullivan was born at Somerworth, in the county of Strafford, New Hampshire, February 18th, 1740. His father was in part of Irish origin, who, it was said, emigrated to this country in consequence of the opposition of his family to his proposed marriage to a person beneath him in rank. He followed the profession of teacher, and hence his son, John, became unusually well educated for that period. In his later youth John commenced the study of law in Portsmouth, the largest town in the Province, where he soon evinced extraordinary aptitude for his chosen profession, and after his admission to the bar he settled in the town of Durham, N. H., which ever remained the place of his residence. There he entered upon a lucrative practice, and not confining himself to his profession merely, he gave much attention to manufacturing enterprises, which were successful and for which that part of New Hampshire has ever since been distinguished. Then came on the troubles with the mother country which preceded the revolution. Sullivan familiarized himself respecting all the great battles of the world, and was accustomed to drill his neighbors in military evolutions long before the conflict opened. In fact, he was one of the first to commence that conflict, for in December, 1774, he participated in an expedition which took from Forts William and Mary, near the entrance of Portsmouth Harbor, ninety-seven casks of

powder. These were stored near his residence, in Durham, for a time, and they became of invaluable service to the Americans at the battle of Bunker Hill.

Sullivan was a member of the first Continental Congress, which assembled at Philadelphia in September, 1774; was on important committees and was particularly distinguished for his eloquent reply to Dickinson, who proposed a second address to the King, which speech elicited much praise from John Adams. On the appointment of Washington as Cammander-in-Chief in 1775, Sullivan was chosen one of the eight generals under him. He was present at the siege of Boston, and, when the term of service of certain Connecticut troops expired, he repaired to New Hampshire and brought down 2,000 volunteers to take their places. He was soon after appointed to the position of Major-General, and went to Canada and rescued, by a successful retreat, the remains of Montgomery's army from capture by the British. He was in the battle of Long Island, where he was taken prisoner, but soon exchanged. At the battle of Brandywine he had a horse shot under him. He also participated in the battles of Germantown, Monmouth and several others, and in 1779 was detailed to administer chastizement to the Indians, who had desolated this beautiful Valley. The result of that expedition is known to you all, and I will only here add that if any military movement during the Revolutionary war was crowned with complete success, it was emphatically this. With an army of over 3,000 men he returned to Easton with the loss of only about 40 men by disease, battle and accident.

Gen. Sullivan was a man who freely expressed his sentiments, and his allusions to the inertness of the Board of war in not reasonably and sufficiently furnishing the supplies for this expedition rendered him an object of disfavor in some quarters, but the result proved that Sullivan was right—for during the return his army had to be put upon half rations. His health being im-

paired by a continuous service of nearly five years in the army, Sullivan, late in 1779, resigned his commission, much to the regret of Washington, who addressed to him a highly complimentary letter. In the following June he was chosen by New Hampshire to represent her again in Congress, which he did with marked ability. Two years later he became Attorney General of that State and rendered important service, and in 1786 he was elected Chief Magistrate of New Hampshire, and subsequently re-elected to that position. He was President of the New Hampshire Convention that adopted the Constitution of the United States, and contributed much to that result. In 1789 he was appointed by Washington Judge of the United States District Court of New Hampshire, and held the office till his greatly lamented death, in January, 1795, he then being nearly 55 years of age. Much could be said in praise of the character and achievements of Gen. Sullivan which have gone through severe and uncalled for criticism unscathed. His fame and reputation will ever be duly appreciated by a people who have received so much benefit from his services, and I only add that among all the eminent worthies who served the American cause during the Revolutionary struggle, no man manifested more disinterested patriotism—more ardent and well directed zeal, and, under the circumstances, attained more complete success than did JOHN SULLIVAN.

People of Wyoming, what a rich inheritance has been handed down to you! Not merely of material things, but the greater inheritance of an ancestry whose annals comprise all that is manly, good and elevating in human nature. Keep bright the Council fires which they lighted in this then secluded valley, amid so much hardship and suffering. Cultivate here their stern virtues, the cardinal virtues, with unfaltering assiduity as you commence another era in your history.

And now, my friends, I must bid you adieu, and set

my face towards Connecticut and beyond, as did my father one century ago this very afternoon, but under circumstances, how immensely, how immeasurably diverse!

Rev. John Pearce pronounced the benediction and

THE BIG SHOW WAS OUT

so far as speech making was concerned.

In the evening illuminations throughout the city were generally displayed from the public buildings and hundreds of private residences on all the principal streets. A calcium light on the Court House tower revealed the surrounding decorations with peculiar vividness and effect, while the residences along the river front and the trees on the Common, presented a fair scene of dazzling splendor. At nine o'clock in the evening the grand pyrotechnic display took place on the Common at the foot of Union street, and was witnessed by the thousands of delighted citizens gathered there. The pieces, many of them were very fine and elaborate in design, the display having cost the Association the sum of $500.

After the fireworks, President Hayes and Mrs. Hayes attended a reception at the residence of Charles Parrish, where a large number of persons called to pay their respects to the Chief Executive of the nation, and to partake of the generous hospitality of the worthy host and hostess.

It was observed in all these impromptu greetings between the head of the Republic and the people, that there can be no established line of social position in this Democratic government of ours, for the old world idea of the Divine right of Kings is something we plain Republicans can have no conception of.

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The following is a list of Aids to Assistant Marshals, distributed throughout the parade at their proper places:

| | |
|---|---|
| Gen. Paul A. Oliver. | Col. Sam Bowman. |
| Col. R. Bruce Ricketts. | Gen. Wm. H McCartney. |

Maj. Elisha A. Hancock.
Maj. Chas. M. Conyngham.
Col. A. von Schluembach.
Col. Oliver K. Moore.
Maj. George N. Reichard.
Col. Jacob Lacier.
Dr. Edward R. Mayer.
Dr. T. M. Murphy.
Capt. Jed C. Paine.
Horace A. Moore.
John T. Lenahan.
Henry W. Palmer.
J. Frank Lee.
Wm. L. Paine.
Allan H. Dickson.
Joseph Stickney.
Wm. S. Hillard.
Sheldon Reynolds.
Wm. C. Reynolds.
Fred Mercur.
G. Mallery Miller.
John McNeish, Jr.
Seligman J. Strauss.
Joseph D. Coons.
Patrick M. Conniff.
Patrick J. Kenney.
Samuel J. Tonkins.
Joe W. Patten.
Wm. Penn Ryman.
G. Mortimer Lewis.
Elijah C. Wadhams.
Charles A. Miner.
Dr. J. Arthur Bullard.
Charles H. Sturdevant.
Ed. W. Sturdevant.
James S. Lee.
Edward Mercur.
Geo. S. Bennett.
John C. Phelps.
Wm. L. Conyngham.
Charles Parrish.
J. Henry Swoyer.
Robert R. Morgan.
Harrison H. Harvey.
E. Greenough Scott.
Edward Stark.
Andrew H. McClintock.
Harrison Wright.
George R. Bedford.
Dr. Geo. W. Guthrie.
John Lynch.
Gustav Hahn.
James P. Dickson.
Wm. S. McLean.
Alexander Farnham.
Lewis C. Paine.
Walter G. Sterling.
Will N. Shoemaker.
Chas. P. Hunt.
George R. Wright.
John P. Brownscombe.
Oscar J. Harvey.
Thomas H. Atherton.
Irving A. Stearns.
Elliot P. Kisner.
Elwood Hunt.
Ed. A. Niven.
Thomas R. Martin.
A. W. Long.
Sylvanus Ayres, Jr.
J. Ridgeway Wright.
J. R. Coolbaugh.
Charles H. Leonard.
Alexander H. Bowman.

Wm. G. Phelps.
Frank Wheaton.
Walter S. Biddle.
Ernest V. Jackson.
Walter S. Carpenter.
Rev. P. A. Smith.
Rev. Father Nagle.
Richard Sharpe, Jr.
Isaac S. Osterhout.
Richard B. Brundage.
Henry Crandall.
Harry H. Derr.
John S Harding.
Sam Newhouse.
Harry Reynolds.
Capt. J. E. Roberts, Pittston
L. Evans, Pittston.
Byron Stark.
Addison A. Sterling.
Edward R. Raub.
John G. White.
Lewis B. Landmesser.
Dr. John H. Peacock.
Isaac M. Thomas.
J. Vaughn Darling.
Charles E. Rice.
Wm. V. Ingham.
David P. Ayres.
Henry M. Hoyt, Jr.
George C. Lewis.
Sterling Catlin.
Fred Parrish.
Joseph K. Bogert.

## JOTTINGS FROM THE PRESS.

If ever there was a jam of human beings in any poor over-crowded city, Wilkesbarre has a right to claim to be the banner city of the jammed. For not less than eight mortal hours there was a mass of sweltering and surging humanity, old men, children, women and girls, of tender ages and all sorts and conditions of people pushing and crowding each other on our sidewalks and on the public grounds. Such a day had never been seen here before, and as far as we can learn good order and jollity characterized the people.

During the middle of the day the grand parade claimed all their attention, and the exercises at the stand on the Common, near South street, came in for its share later in the day.

Two large flat boats came down from up river on the evening of the 3d, carrying a large number of excursionists who seemed to have everything to make them

comfortable. One was called the Owego and the other the Belle Barton. They were fitted up in good style as regards living, having tables, ranges, mattresses, and there is no doubt the young folks had a good time barring the excessive heat, on the water.

The Scranton Battalion had a dress parade on the river Common at six o'clock and were reviewed by Governor Hartranft and the President, who expressed themselves much pleased with the drill and material of our sister city's military organization.

### LET US FEEL THANKFUL.

The great Wyoming Centenary has passed and we are happy to announce that no serious case of accident or prostration occurred for us to chronicle.

The hospital fitted up on the lawn at the residence of Dr. Mayer, on River street, was under the able charge of the Doctor himself, assisted by Dr. H. Hakes and the other physicians invited to attend upon the sick and wounded on that day, and they attended strictly to the duty during the entire day, and we were pleased to learn on inquiry at the temporary hospital that no serious mishap had occurred.

There were brought in for treatment during the day: James Higans, of Sugar Notch, aged 13 years, slight sunstroke; but soon relieved and sent home in good condition. Margaret Searle, of Lackawanna, a married woman, prostrated by the heat, soon relieved, and Minnie Cross, aged 18 years, of Moseytown, suffering from slight congestion of the brain caused by heat and excitement. After being treated by the doctors who were giving their time and experience in the interest of humanity, she soon was relieved of any serious apprehension and sent to her home in the ambulance. This speaks well for the profession who have so kindly volunteered their services, and we have cause for congratulation that they had so little work to do on this Centennial day.

The earnest efforts made generally to provide for the wants of the great influx of strangers who attended the celebration on the line of the streets traversed by the parade, proved very acceptable to the thirsty masses. Barrels containing ice water were placed at convenient points where all could slake their thirst at will and without money or price.

Thirty-five thousand excursion tickets to Wilkesbarre were sold in Philadelphia on the 3d and 4th.

It required sixty-three cars to transport passengers between Scranton and Wilkesbarre.

President Hayes and party, accompanied by United States Senator J. Donald Cameron left the city on the morning of the 5th for their respective places of abode.

Of the commemorative medals ordered by the appropriate committee, there were struck in gold 7, in silver 200, copper bronze 300, copper gilt 151, white metal 1,002, after which the dies were broken and the fragments forwarded to the proper committee.

## THE REGATTA.

The citizens in charge of the regatta contest met at the Valley Hotel on the evening of the 5th for the purpose of awarding the prizes of medals to the successful crews. The medals are the same as the silver and bronze Centennial medals, but of solid gold, and are of the money value of $160. Hon. Lazarus D. Shoemaker was called to the chair and made the proper kind of a speech to the aquatic heroes. Mr. Thomas R. Goucher presented the medals.

The crews responded in a fitting manner, and returned thanks for the kindness shown them by their entertainers in this city during their stay. The Quaker City crew of Philadelphia were the victors in the four-oared race and received the first prize. In the one pair-oared race, the Undines, also of Philadelphia, being the only entry, the crew each received a medal. Mr. Henry Bond, of the

College Club of Philadelphia, was the victor in the single scull race and a medal was awarded to him accordingly. Mr. A. S. Dressel had entered for this race but his boat was disabled before starting. The Plymouth Star Rowing Club had a race for a silver goblet which was won by Mr. Thomas B. Barnes. County Treasurer John McNeish, Col. Frank Stewart, of Berwick, and Col. A. J. Frick, of Danville, each had his say at the boys when they all repaired to the residence of Mr. Shoemaker, where a reception was held and at a late hour the festivities closed, all feeling that it is a pleasant thing to be a jolly good water man in these gay and festive days.

### THE VETERAN CORPS.

The following resolutions neatly engrossed were forwarded to the Association in acknowledgment of courtesies extended to the Corps during its Centennial visit:

At a meeting of the Veteran Corps, First Regiment, Infantry N. G. Pa., held immediately upon its return from the visit to participate in the ceremonies attending the Centennial commemoration of the Massacre of Wyoming, it was unanimously resolved:

1. That the thanks of the Corps be tendered to the people of Wilkesbarre for the reception tendered them.

2. That the participation in the commemoration of an event which so developed the nerve, energy and sacrifice of American manhood, is of itself a special privilege; yet the graceful, easy attentions will doubly intensify the recollections of its many pleasant incidents, and have secured the pronounced verdict, that Wilkesbarre has no rival in her happy way of showing her desire to make the stranger feel that her people have generous homes where he is always welcome.

3. That our thanks are hereby tendered to the Wyoming Artillerists, Grand Army of the Republic and the citizens committee, who received and escorted the Corps on its arrival on July 3.

4. That especially are we indebted to many of Wilkesbarre's distinguished private citizens for particular courtesies.

5. That a copy of these resolutions be furnished the chairman of the committee of arrangements, Wilkesbarre.

JAMES W. LATTA,
Col. and President Veteran Corps.

Attest: G. H. NORTH, Adjutant and Secretary, etc.

## CLOSING UP.

. The Executive Committee met at the Arbitration Room Saturday morning, July 6th, at ten o'clock.

In the absence of the chairman and secretary, who were unavoidably detained at home, E. L. Dana was called to the chair and W. H. Bradley appointed secretary pro tem.

Bills were presented from the several committees aggregating in amount about $4,500. The subscriptions have been mostly collected, and there yet remains on the books enough to defray all expenses in full, so that, besides having had a very excellent celebration, the committee have the additional satisfaction of having it in their power to be able not to leave a single debt unpaid.

A committee consisting of Gen. E. L. Dana, Hon Steuben Jenkins and Hon. L. D. Shoemaker was appointed to draft resolutions expressive of the sense of the Association of the hospitality of the citizens of the valley, and their indefatigable labors toward the success of the occasion.

On motion of Dr. Hakes a resolution of thanks was extended to the press—both local and general—for their courteous and liberal notices, both in advance and in reporting the proceedings.

A committee, consisting of Dr. Bradley, Dr. Hakes and Rev. Abel Barker was appointed for the purpose of

ascertaining as nearly as possible the number of persons in attendance at Wyoming and Wilkesbarre on the third and fourth days of July.

It was on motion resolved that the Wyoming 100th year Association be continued as a permanent organization, to meet annually at Wyoming, on the third day of July in each recurring year so long as any of the original members shall survive.

On motion, it was determined to make out a list of the contributors to the expenses of this Centennial, and place the same in the rooms of the Historical Society.

Drs. Hakes and Hollister presented the lithograph stone of the map of Wyoming Valley as it appeared 100 years ago, which was directed to be preserved in the rooms of the Historical Society.

Adjourned to meet on Wednesday at the Arbitration Room at 10 o'clock to transact finally the business of the celebration.

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## SUMMING UP THE RESULT.

The great one hundredth anniversary, with all its pleasures and discomforts, is now a thing of the past and has taken its place in the history of our country; and perhaps at this time it may not be inappropriate for this department of the *Times* to indulge in a few reminiscences of the past year as connected with the days we have just celebrated.

On the 3d of July, 1877, a few of the citizens representing the pioneer settlers of Wyoming, met at the Court House in this city. Among them was the Wilkesbarre representative of this paper, and it was then and there determined to make the effort to commemorate the centenary year of our sorrow in a manner that would show to the world that the descendants of those brave men were not unmindful of the sacrifices made on the bloody 3d of July, 1778.

Throughout the past year the *Times* has ever been foremost in advertising to the world the preparations that were being made, and the expectations of the men at the head of this great undertaking. We have been nobly seconded by the local press of the county and surrounding country, and though some of them may have entertained lingering doubts of the success of the enterprise at first, still all in the latter part of the labor have done their best, and we think that old Wyoming, the old Westmoreland commonwealth may well feel proud of our grand and overwhelming demonstration, that has taken captive the heads and the hearts of almost the entire country, and by reviewing the events of the past in the minds of the people, given us a place in history that must forever remain fixed and determined. But this is not the most pleasing feature of the event; it has brought together the old citizens from all quarters of the country, who for years have been estranged from each other, renewing and recementing the ties of kindred and friends who may have grown cold in their early love by distance and lapse of time; and it has thus caused many happy reunions, which, but for this, would never have occurred.

In our brief account of the ceremonial transactions, we have avoided anything like self-gratulation, as expressing any opinion as to the success or otherwise of the exhibition, but contented ourselves with giving the plain facts, leaving our readers to infer from these, what the result must have been. We have now only to say, that we consider it an overwhelming success. It has accomplished all that was designed by its originators; and though some of the details may have been lacking in the order of arrangements, this can in no way detract from the grand result.

We have given our labor freely without hope of reward. We have had no little hatchet to be set on edge by gathering scraps of history relating to any of the active participators in that hot July day, as none of our ances-

tors were great braves or Indian killers of pre-revolutionary times. Our lineage comes from a different vocation; our ancestor was a man of peace and not war, and no laurel dabbled in blood can be supposed to deck his spirit brow. We have sought only to vindicate the facts of history in common with others engaged in the great undertaking. We are content to leave history to deal with us as we deserve.—*Scranton Times, July 7th.*

## NEWSPAPER MENTION.

Messrs. Faser and Smith sold over twenty thousand flags during the Centennial excitement in this city.

### TO BE CLOSED FOR 100 YEARS.

The Executive Committee met in Court room No 2, at 10 o'clock a. m. July 11th and was hard at work all day scrutinizing and auditing bills. The amount passed and directed to be paid amounts to $5,698 79. The amount already collected on subscription amounts to $5,111.50; of this amount Pittston has contributed $430; and the great city of Scranton $0000.00. Upon the facts appearing that the Association was short about $500, a few of the gentlemen present very liberally and patriotically offered to increase the amount of their subscriptions so as to cover all obligations incurred in the demonstration. The orders will be drawn to-day and those entitled to receive the money can obtain them at the Secretary's office.

The committee adjourned to meet at 10 a. m. on Saturday next, for a final meeting to close up business till the bi-centenary return of the anniversary may call others to preform a similar duty

### HUMORS OF THE 100TH YEAR PARADE.

The colored element was in a ferment of excitement and the sable sons of Ham were in dead earnest, for the

Wyoming centenary services were at hand, and had not the thirsty earth at Wyoming drank of the rich red blood of a Gershom Prince and a Quocko on that fatal 3d of July.? Therefore duty and patriotism to the mother country required that her descendants should duly honor their memory on this 100th anniversary of their fall.

Meetings were called and held; resolutions were passed, committees appointed, a hall for headquarters was engaged for the gathering hosts, who were expected to honor the occasion with their presence from all parts of this broad land. At least ten thousand of the once despised race, now free and independent citizens, would assemble here on the 3d. The Centennial Committee pledged $100 to assist them in entertaining the visitors from abroad. More resolutions, more committees, more horses for the marshals was the result. Owens was in his glory; Towns was eloquent; Rex was truly regal in his adornments; but lo! on the glorious 4th, when they appeared in the procession, we were doomed to a cruel disappointment. First came the marshals mounted on fiery steeds, with epaulettes, chapeaus, sashes and spurs. These were followed by Holmes' hired colored band, and then—oh! we regret to chronicle it—came the grand procession of one poor dejected mortal, who blushed when he thought of the ridiculous part he was acting, of, into a thousand parts trying to divide one man, to make imaginary puissance. We pitied that poor fellow, and if we knew his name would give it as a tribute to his pluck and energy. It is hard to be an end man in a parade, and this being the head and tail both of a grand procession, must be very trying to weak nerves.—*Times July 6th.*

## AUDITING THE BILLS.

The Executive Committee met on Thursday, July 11th, for the purpose of auditing bills for necessary expenses and for other purposes. Orders were directed to be drawn on the Treasurer, aggregating in amount $5,883.79.

The committee appointed to draft suitable resolutions expressive of the sense of the Association, of the hospitality of the citizens of the Valley, made the following

REPORT.

The committee to whom was referred the duty of preparing and reporting an appropriate expression of thanks to those who aided in the commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the Battle and Massacre of Wyoming, beg leave to report the following:

This Association, organized for the purpose of adopting plans and obtaining from subscriptions, the means for the due observance of the 3d and 4th of July, having now accomplished the primary and leading object of its organization, desires to express its obligation to the general public and to the citizens individually, who, by active efforts and liberal money contributions, aided in rendering the exercises and display connected with the Wyoming Centennial, a gratifying and memorable success. The Association observes and gratefully recognizes the good order and the respectful attention shown by the vast assemblage of citizens, both at Wyoming and at Wilkesbarre. Its thanks are due and are hereby cordially tendered to the high officials, both national and state, and to the military and civic organizations, who by their presence and active participation, added to the exercises; and also to the orators and poets who favored us with their eloquent, appropriate and beautiful contributions.

The Association desires especially to express its thanks for many creditable odes and poetic productions, which for want of time could not be read. The writers are assured that their contributions will be carefully preserved among the proceedings of the Association.

The Executive Committee returns its thanks to the ladies and citizens of Wyoming, Pittston and Wilkesbarre, for the rich and tasteful decorations of the streets, the buildings, public and private, for the skill and labor

employed in the historical and mechanical displays, and for the hospitality so generously shown in ministering to the wants, and contributing to the enjoyment of our guests. The Association further expresses its gratitude for the pleasant weather with which we were favored, and the fact that no accident, injury or disturbance occurred to mar the enjoyments or sadden the memory of the occasion. Respectfully submitted,

E. L. DANA.
STEUBEN JENKINS.
L. D. SHOEMAKER.
Committee.

SETTLING UP CENTENNIAL BUSINESS.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee on Saturday morning, July 13th, Col. Dorrance called the meeting to order, after which the following proceedings were had:

Dr. Bradley, chairman of the committee appointed to investigate as to the numbers present at Wyoming and Wilkesbarre on the 3d and 4th, reported after consultation with the several railroad companies, that there were at Wyoming about 60,000 and at Wilkesbarre 80,000 persons brought there by rail.

WHEREAS, It appears from the official returns of the several railroad companies centering at Wyoming and Wilkesbarre that, during the two days of our Centennial ceremonies they carried to and from these points nearly 80,000 passengers, without sacrificing a single life or injuring a limb, but on the contrary, by the exercise of extraordinary caution the manifestation of special interest and the courteous attention of superintendents, officers and employees, they contributed so largely to the success of the celebration, therefore

*Resolved*, That the thanks of the Association are due and hereby tendered these several companies, their officers and employees.

*Resolved*, That in an especial manner are our thanks due W. F. Halstead, Superintendent of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad, who carefully placed a special train at the disposition of the Reception Committee for use of the Presidential party, and in every possible way, both individually and through subordinate officers and employees contributed to the comfort, convenience and pleasure of those who attended the exercises at Wyoming,

On motion, ordered that one of the flags used in the decorations at Wyoming on the 3d be presented to each of the following persons: Charles Dorrance, president; Payne Pettebone, chairman Finance Committee; Wesley Johnson, secretary; R. J. Wisner, chairman decorations; Dr. H. Hakes, chairman on maps, etc.; Dr. Hollister, on historical data; Steuben Jenkins, chairman on antiquities; Abel Barker, on decorations.

The flag voted to Col. Dorrance was by him immediately presented to Payne Pettebone, Esq., as trustee, to be held for use whenever it shall be thought proper to use a flag by the Wyoming Monumental Association.

Adjourned to meet at the same place at 10 a. m. on Saturday next.

The Executive Committee met at 10 o'clock a. m. on Saturday morning, July 20th 1878, at the office of L. D. Shoemaker, Treasurer.

On motion, ordered that the sum of $25 each, to Miss Susan E. Dickinson and Mrs. Gertrude Watres, be donated as slight testimonials for their poems for the 3d of July.

Dr. Hollister deposited with the secretary for the use of the Publishing Committee documents, curious and historical, collected by him during the past year.

On motion, ordered that one of the flags belonging to this association be presented to the Scranton Battalion in recognition of their services on the 3d.

On motion of Dr. Hollister, ordered that this association will meet at the Wyoming Monument on the 3d of July, 1879, at 10 o'clock a. m. of that day, and annually thereafter while any of its members shall live.

Adjourned to meet on Saturday August 31st, at 10 a. m. at the usual place.

The following is a list of payments and on what account the money was paid:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| No. 1 | To | Calvin Parsons, for music, vocal and instrumental, | $ 489 00 |
| " 2 | " | W. H. Bradley, for large posters, | 139 75 |
| " 3 | " | J. C. Paine, for Grand Army, | 100 00 |
| " 4 | " | Steuben Jenkins, antiquities, | 18 92 |
| " 5 | " | George Coray, buildings, | 401 06 |
| " 6 | " | H. A. Laycock, dinners for singers, | 400 00 |
| " 7 | " | A. Barker, transportation of battalion, | 102 50 |
| " 8 | " | James P. Atherton, dinners for battalion, | 35 00 |
| " 9 | " | James P. Artherton, dinners for artillerists, | 15 50 |
| " 10 | " | James P. Atherton, dinners for police, | 17 20 |
| " 11 | " | C. Dorrance, for P. V. Wambold use of chairs, | 19 75 |
| " 12 | " | T. C. Parker, for Wyoming Artillerists, | 250 00 |
| " 13 | " | R. J. Wisner, decoration at Wyoming, | 500 00 |
| " 14 | " | James P. Dickson, historical tableaux, | 500 00 |
| " 15 | " | A. Barker, transportation of Indians, | 121 00 |
| " 16 | " | Silkman & Woodling, barouche for the President | 60 00 |
| " 17 | " | T. S. Hillard, for firemen, | 75 00 |
| " 18 | " | J. K. Bogert, printing, | 130 00 |
| " 19 | " | Wesley Johnson, for Colored Band, | 50 00 |
| " 20 | " | Payne Pettebone, repairs to monument, | 100 00 |
| " 21 | " | Thomas Halfpenny, boarding Indians, | 40 00 |
| " 22 | " | John Ræder, boarding Indians, | 45 00 |
| " 23 | " | H. Hakes, ambulance and hospital stores, | 54 50 |
| " 24 | " | E. L. Dana, expense of committee, | 21 00 |
| " 25 | " | Robert Baur, printing, | 55 10 |
| " 26 | " | (McClellan Rifles, $50 declined cancelled) | |
| " 27 | " | Samuel Newhouse, decorations at Wilkesbarre, | 408 88 |
| " 28 | " | Stanley Woodward, for telegraphing, | 50 00 |
| " 29 | " | C. Dorrance, expense Lexington tent, | 25 00 |
| " 30 | " | J. W. Patten, for tin cups, | 4 00 |
| " 31 | " | E. L. Dana, expressage on Gen. Sullivan's portrait, | 3 60 |
| " 32 | " | John Long, for ice at Wyoming, | 10 00 |
| " 33 | " | Marx Long, for collecting, | 50 00 |
| " 34 | " | C. C. Jones, stands on the Common, | 50 00 |
| " 35 | " | James P. Atherton, expense of tents, | 372 03 |
| " 36 | " | Stanley Woodward, for bands on the 4th, | 375 00 |
| " 37 | " | H. W. Palmer, fireworks, | 500 00 |
| " 38 | " | Payne Pettebone, painting monument fence, | 100 00 |
| " 39 | " | James P. Atherton, additional expense, | 65 50 |
| " 40 | " | John Zeidler, meals for battalion, | 42 50 |
| " 41 | " | Harry Courtright, livery hire, | 10 00 |
| " 42 | " | A. F. Snyder, posting bills, | 3 00 |
| " 43 | " | Mrs. H. G. Watres, for poem, | 25 00 |
| " 44 | " | Miss Susan E. Dickinson, poem, | 25 00 |
| " 45 | " | Steuben Jenkins, balance expense, | 1 25 |
| " 46 | " | J. B. Stark, hotel bill for President, | 48 25 |
| " 47 | " | C. A. Miner, expense of Wm. P. Abbott, | 10 00 |
| " 48 | " | A. Barker, flag for Scranton Battalion, | 21 00 |
| " 49 | " | John Knelley, trimming trees, | 6 50 |
| " 50 | " | James P. Atherton to pay police, | 35 00 |
| | | Total orders issued, | $6,131 89 |

## THE FLAG PRESENTATION

The ceremony of presenting the flag voted by the Association to the Scranton Battalion of City Guards took place at the Armory in Scranton, on September 4th, 1878.

Major Boies had paraded the Battalion in full dress uniform, and shortly after 4 o'clock in the afternoon the officers of the Association, being Col. Dorrance, President, L. D. Shoemaker Treasurer, Wesley Johnson Secretary, Payne Pettebone of Finance Committee, Steuben Jenkins, Abel Barker, Dr. H. Hakes, E. L. Dana and Dr. Hollister of Executive Committee were duly escorted to the Armory, where a large number of ladies and gentlemen spectators had assembled to witness the interesting ceremony.

General Dana offered the presentation speech, and delivered the flag, a beautiful one, to Major Boies, which was accepted in behalf of the Battalion in the same graceful manner, thanking the Association, not only for the handsome donation, but also for the spirit of the donors in making so appropriate a gift to this association of citizen soldiers. The flag was then raised on the Armory building, where it was saluted by the soldiers in due form. The members of the association, were then escorted in carriages to the parade ground where the Battalion performed some of its best military evolutions of field drill by firing volleys, file firing and firing in skirmish line, advancing in fine style on an imaginary enemy. Also exhibiting the efficacy of the Gatling gun fire at a target at considrable distance. General Dana, a hero of two wars expressed himself much pleased at the Battalion drill. The day passed pleasantly, and will be one long to be remembered by all concerned.

# VALLEY FORGE.

On the 22d of November 1878, the Valley Forge Centennial Association paid a complimentary visit to its sister Association of Wyoming. A special train on the Lehigh Valley road under command of Alexander Mitchell, Superintendent, left Wilkesbarre at 8 o'clock a. m. and met the visiting party at East Penn. Junction, (Allentown).

Dr. Hollister and Calvin Parsons as a committee of escort, met the train at Mauch Chunk; Dr. Hakes and Wesley Johnson boarded the same at Espy Station to act as an auxiliary reception committee.

The visiting party consisted of eighty-five ladies and gentlemen, of Philadelphia, Norristown, Reading, Conshohocken, etc. The party was in charge of Col. Bean manager for the Regents of the Association: Among other distinguished members were Col. McQuade, R. R. Colson, J. P. Jenkins, Col. James Boyd, E. Beers, Col. Ellis, Ira Roberts, Esq., Secretary of the Association, and John Eckman, Treasurer, Maj. and Mrs. Holstein, Mrs. Aubry H. Smith, Mrs. McGuire, Gen. Gregg, Col. W. H. H. Davis, Mr and Mrs. Wickersham, Mrs. R. R. Coursen, Mrs. Mercur, Mr. I. Smith Fathey, Editor Barton, of the *Village Record*, West Chester, and Lewis Davis, Editor, of Pottstown, Gen. Albright, of Mauch Chunk, etc.

The train arrived in Wilkesbarre at 2:50 p m., in the midst of a drenching rain, when the visitors were met by a Committee of the Wyoming Association, consisting of Abel Barker, L. D. Shoemaker, E. L. Dana, Steuben Jenkins, Benjamin F. Dorrance and Dr. Edward R. Mayer. Carriages were in waiting to convey the party to the Wyoming Valley Hotel for rest und refreshments.

After mutual greetings had been exchanged, and the visitors, such as desired to be, had been introduced to the Governor-elect Gen. H. M. Hoyt, and Lieut. Governor Stone, all repaired to the spacious dining hall where dinner was waiting. After dinner the Governor-elect was introduced to the visitors by Gen. Dana, who in consequence of the absence of Col Dorrance on account of

illness, was acting for the Wyoming. Gen. Hoyt in the few happy remarks, which were addressed to the guests of the occasion, regretted that their visit had fallen on so inclement a day as this has been, and gallantly remarking that the smiles of the ladies present were the only gleams of sunshine with which we have been favored or will be favored during this visit. This was responded to by Gen. Louis Wagner in an equally gallant and happy manner, after which Gen. Dana, on behalf of the Wyoming Association, made a few remarks as to the mission of these sister Associations, that of keeping green the memory of those brave men of the trying times of the Revolutionary struggle.

The story of Valley Forge, while it does not call to mind the shock of battle, where brave men fall mid fire and smoke and clash of arms and sabre stroke, or by lingering torture of prisoners after the combat had ceased, as ours of Wyoming does, yet when we recall the events of that winter's encampment on the banks of the Schuylkill, we see Washington and his little army of patriots during the darkest period of our revolutionary struggle. We see a body of men destitute of almost everything that tends to make camp life endurable. Without proper food, without clothing, without shoes, their naked and lacerated feet leaving tracks of blood in the snow through which they were compelled to wade in the performance of duty. And yet they, thanks to the indomitable will and cheering presence of a Washington, never lost heart or faith in the ultimate triumph of their cause. And permit me to say to you, members of the Valley Forge Memorial Association, that yours is a high and noble trust—cherish it—cherish the name of Washington, and through him his noble compatriots, who after a night of gloom amid the Pennsylvania hills on our own lovely Schuylkill, were destined to behold the first streakings of the morning light of liberty for the oppressed colonies struggling to be free.

Mrs. Aubry H. Smith, Regent of the Valley Forge Association, responded to Judge Dana's characteristic remarks in a manner equally eloquent and patriotic. She thanked the officers and members of the Wyoming Association, in the name of the Association which she represented, for the handsome reception accorded it—reminding the members of the former, that they too had a duty to perform to posterity as well as to the past—that of cherishing the memory of the virtues and sufferings of the noble dead whose remains rest beneath Wyoming's monumental shaft, as well as those others, equally brave men, who in the Providence of God outlived the slaughter of July 3d. I feel proud of the people of my generation when I remember the overwhelming success that attended your recent efforts at inaugurating a memorial service, worthy of the name, on the completion of the first hundred years after that disastrous event. I can assure you that your efforts were watched with the utmost solicitude by the Association in whose name I am now speaking, and in our name I can most heartily respond, "Well done, sister Association."

This spirited little speech of Mrs. Smith closed the social part of the ceremonies, and at half-past 5 o'clock p. m. the visitors again took the train and departed for their homes.

# CORRESPONDENCE.

The Committee on Invitations, in the name of its Chairman, Judge Harding, having been directed by the Association to invite the President of the United States, the Governors of the "Old Thirteen" States, and such other high officials and distinguished citizens as should be thought advisable by the committee, as guests of the Association, to be present on the 3d and 4th at the memorial and celebratory exercises of these days, sent out numerous invitations as requested, the following being a copy of the one sent to the President. The replies follow in their order.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., April 15, 1878.

His Excellency, Rutherford B. Hayes,
*President of the United States.*

*Sir*:—The descendants of that brave band of patriots who were massacred in the Valley of Wyoming, on the 3d day of July, 1778, have determined to celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of that event. They will be joined by the citizens of Pennsylvania generally, and also by the citizens of New England. It will give us great pleasure to have you honor the occasion by your presence. Allow us to hope that we will be in an early receipt of a favorable response.

With considerations in the highest degree respectful I am very truly yours,

Garrick M. Harding,
Chairman of the Committee on Invitations.

From the President.

Executive Mansion, Washington, May 11, 1878.

*My Dear Sir:*

I have delayed a reply to your note transmitting an invitation to attend the Wyoming Centennial, in the hope that I should be able to accept. If Congress continues in session until July 4th my engagements and duties will prevent my attendance. As affairs stand I am therefore compelled to decline, if I now decide the question.

Sincerely,

R. B. Hayes.

[This letter was directed to Hon. Hendrick B. Wright, and was marked "private" on the upper left hand corner. The President, however, on the 20th of June sent to Judge Harding a formal acceptance of the invitation to be present, which is given on page 91.]

Granick M. Harding

### From the Governor of Pennsylvania.

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER, Harrisbug, Pa., May 20, 1878.

*Dear Harding:*

Your letter of invitation for July 4th has been received and in answer have to say that I expect to be with you. I yesterday mentioned the subject to the President, as I did once before, and I find he has not made up his mind yet to decline, and believe he will accept. I proposed that he and his party should come to Harrisburg the day before he visits Wilkesbarre and remain here over night, and we would join him in the morning and accompany him and party to your region. Perhaps a special letter would settle the matter with him in our favor.

Yours sincerely,

J. F. HARTRANFT.

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### From the Governor of New York.

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER, Albany, May 28, 1878.

HON. GARRICK M. HARDING:

*Dear Sir*—The Governor has received your polite favor inviting him to attend the celebration of the hundredth anniversary of the Massacre of Wyoming. He desires me to express his very cordial acknowledgements for your courtesy and his regret that he will not be able to participate in the ceremonies which will possess so great an interest to every student of our history; but official business will prevent his absence from the State at the time named, and he is therefore obliged, reluctantly to forego the pleasure of uniting in the exercises on the occasion.

Very truly yours,

D. C. ROBINSON,

Private Secretary.

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### From the Governor of Virginia.

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE, May 16, 1878.

HON. G. M. HARDING:

*Dear Sir*—Your very cordial invitation to be present at the hundredth anniversary of the Battle and Massacre of Wyoming has been received. In returning my thanks I have also to express my regrets as not being able to be present on the interesting occasion. It would afford me great pleasure to meet the Governors of the "Old Thirteen," whom you hope to be present, and revive memories, which, while they call up the trials and sufferings that were, in one form or another, borne by our common ancestry, ought to make us the more earnest to preserve the common heritage which those trials and sufferings won.

Very truly yours,

FRED W. M. HOLLIDAY.

### From the Governor of Maryland.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, Annapolis, May 17, 1878

HON. G. M. HARDING, Wilkesbarre:

*My Dear Sir*—Your communication of the 1st was duly received. I appreciated most highly the cordial invitation you have tendered to me to be present on the occasion of the celebration of the hundredth anniversary of the Battle and Massacre of Wyoming, in July next. I wish it were possible for me to be with you and to join with the descendants of the memorable slain, in the interesting ceremonies which I see you have prepared for that day, but I regret very much that my engagements for July 4th will prevent my attendance.

Believe me, very respectfully your obedient servant.

JOHN LEE CARROLL.

### From the Governor of Vermont.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, St. Johnsbury, May 28, 1878.

*My Dear Sir:*

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your courteous invitation to attend the hundredth anniversary of the Battle and Massacre of Wyoming on the 3d of July next, and regret that my engagements will deprive me of the pleasure of being present. I am yours very truly,

Hon. G. M. Harding. HORACE FAIRBANKS.

### From the Governor of Maine.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, Augusta, May 27, 1878.

HON. GARRICK M. HARDING, Wilkesbarre, Pa.:

*Dear Sir*—I have the honor to thank you for the very courteous and cordial invitation you favor me with to be present at the commemoration of the hundredth anniversary of the Massacre of Wyoming, and I regret exceedingly that my engagements are such as to prevent my attendance on that interesting occasion. Yours very respectfully,

SELDEN CONNOR.

### From the Governor of North Carolina.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, Raleigh, May 16, 1878.

HON. G. M. HARDING, Wilkesbarre, Pa.:

*My Dear Sir*—I acknowledge with much pleasure your invitation to attend the hundredth anniversary of the Battle and Massacre of Wyoming, to be celebrated in your city on the 3d of July next. I do assure you that it would be exceedingly agreeable to me to accept it and be present if circumstances permitted. Unhappily, in addition to the ordinary duties of my office, which might be postponed, the illness of my wife, which threatens to be long continued, compels me to forego the great pleasure of visiting you. I can therefore make no engagements for the future which would take me from her side. I desire, however, to return you my thanks for your courteous invitation, and

I assure you and those whom you represent, that I wish exceeding well to all such efforts to commemorate the virtue, valor, and suffering of our ancestors which constitute the common ground of affection and pride of all American citizens. With sentiments of regard I am, Dear Sir, respectfully yours,

Z. B. VANCE.

### From Ex-Governor Seymour.

UTICA, May 9, 1878.

*My Dear Sir*—I am glad to learn that there is to be a suitable commemoration of the Massacre of Wyoming. I attach great importance to everything which tends to keep alive in the minds of our people the recollections of historic events. I am sure that the celebration in this State in the course of the this year have made our citizens more intelligent, virtuous and patriotic than they would have been if no notice had been taken of centennial events. I send you a copy of the proceedings at Schuylerville where Burgoyne surrendered his army. I will also try to let you have the record of the Oriskany celebration. I do not think it will be in my power to be at your place on the 3d of July. If I find that I can gratify myself in this respect I will give you timely notice

HORATIO SEYMOUR.

Hon. G. M. Harding, Chairman, etc.

### From Ex-Governor Andrew G. Curtin.

BELLEFONTE, PA., June, 1878.

*My Dear Sir*—I am extremely obliged for your invitation, and I will come and swell the crowd.

I cannot say whether Mrs. Curtin or Katie, whom you seem expecting to want, will come with me. If either of them will come I will write.

It will be Katie if either. Truly your friend,

A. G. CURTIN.

Hon. Garrick M. Harding.

### From an Ex-Acting Governor of the Northwest Territory.

RIPON, WIS., June 27, 1878.

*My Dear Sir*—Your kind letter of invitation was received and I had fondly hoped I should have had the pleasure of being with you at the 100th anniversary of the battle and massacre of Wyoming, 3d of July, 1778; 3d of July, 1878.

Having been upwards of sixty years ago a graduate of Washington College in dear old Pennsylvania, and where I had been taught the doctrine of free principles and emancipation, even before the teaching of Greeley himself, I had entertained the very great pleasure of meeting at least some of my college friends.

Ill health of myself and family alone forbid my attendance on that truly interesting occasion, so appropriately celebrated to reanimate the spirit of our

ever to be appreciated and truly to be honored ancestors in their struggle for Liberty and Independence, through blood and massacre for seven long years of hunger, nakedness, toil and cold of Northern winters, as personally related to me by my patriotic ancestors of the States of Maryland and Virginia, paternal and maternal, and as exhibited by the records of the General Government.

I feel, therefore, the same patriotic determination, and at the same costs of hunger, risk, privation and cold, to preserve the Republic inaugurated and brought into existence by my patriotic ancestors as they suffered to bring it into existence.

With sentiments of the highest regard for the motive of the gentlemen of the association, so patriotic as they must be, and deeply regretting my inability to be present; I am there, however, in spirit in full sympathy and concert of action, determinedly to preserve, defend and maintain Washington's Government, conquered by Washington, and sustained by the wisdom of Franklin, Pennsylvania's great political luminary and son, without either of whom having lived, the effort of Independence might have failed.

JOHN S. HORNER,

Acting Governor of the Northwest Territory under Andrew Jackson's Presidency of the United States.

Hon. G. M. Harding, Chairman, etc.

### From the Lieutenant Governor of Pennsylvania.

WARREN, PA., June 23, 1878.

*My Dear Sir*—Your invitation to be present at the Wyoming anniversary celebration on the 3d and 4th prox. was duly received. Thanking you for the courtesy of the invitation I accept the same and shall be pleased to join in the observance of this interesting historic occasion.

Yours truly,

CHARLES W. STONE.

Hon. G. M. Harding, Chairman, etc.

### From the Governor of Rhode Island.

NEWPORT, R. I., June 7, 1878.

*My Dear Sir*—I had hoped that I should be able to accept your pleasant inviation to be present at your anniversary, and I have delayed complying, but I am compelled by official engagements to remain in my State and regret that I must forego the pleasure I had anticipated.

I wish you much happiness.

I am, my Dear Sir, most truly yours,

CHARLES C. VAN ZANDT.

Hon. G. M. Harding, Chairman, etc.

### From the Secretary of State.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON, June 8, 1878.

*My Dear Sir* I am this morning in receipt of your very courteous invitation to the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the battle and massacre of Wyoming, on the 3d of July next.

It would give me great pleasure to take part upon so interesting an occasion, and therefore regret extremely that I am unable to foresee that it will be in my power to be present at the proposed celebration.

I beg to thank you for the very kind and friendly expressions of your note, and am Very truly yours,

WM. M. EVARTS.

Hon. G. M. Harding, Chairman, etc.

### From the Secretary of the Interior.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, WASHINGTON, June 8, 1878.

*My Dear Sir* — I have received your letter of the 1st inst. and thank you sincerely for your kind invitation. It would give me great pleasure to accept your hospitality so cordially offered, but my official duties will not permit me to leave Washington at the time of your interesting celebration.

Very truly yours,

C. SCHURZ.

Hon. G. M. Harding, Chairman, etc.

### From the Chief Justice of the U. S. Court.

ST. NICHOLAS HOTEL, NEW YORK, June 8, 1878.

*My Dear Sir* Your very kind invitation to be present at the commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the massacre of Wyoming, on the 3d of the coming month reaches me here, and I regret exceedingly that my engagements are such as to make it impossible for me to accept. Nothing but imperative necessity could prevent my being with you. The occasion is one that cannot but be full of interest, and I know how much I should enjoy it.

With many thanks for the invitation and for the kind words in which you have been pleased to communicate it,

I remain very sincerely yours,

M. R. WAITE.

Hon. G. M. Harding, Chairman, etc.

### From Speaker Randall.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, WASHINGTON, D. C., June 8, 1878.

*My Dear Sir* — Permit me to thank you for your polite invitation to be present on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the Battle and Massacre of Wyoming, and to express my regret that owing to other engagements I shall be unable to attend. Very truly yours,

SAM. J. RANDALL.

### From Senator Conkling.

UNITED STATES SENATE CHAMBER, WASHINGTON, June 10, 1878.

*My Dear Sir*—I have the invitation to the 100th anniversary of the Battle and Massacre of Wyoming, and with it your courteous letter pressing me to attend, and enumerating many tempting inducements.

I would gladly accept the invatation were it within my power, but it is not.

A conflicting engagement, conditioned on the session expiring in season to keep it, would alone constrain me to deny myself the pleasure of being present on the occasion.

Please receive my thanks for your kind words.

Very truly yours,

ROSCOE CONKLING.

Hon. G. M. Harding, Chairman, etc.

### From the President of Yale College.

YALE COLLEGE, NEW HAVEN, Conn., May 22, 1878.

*My Dear Sir*—Please accept my thanks for the courteous invitation to be present on the 3d of July at the 100th anniversary of the Massacre of Wyoming. It would give me great pleasure to visit your beautiful valley on that most interesting occasion, but my engagements will probably be such as to prevent me from being present. No event has left a deeper impression upon my imagination than the story of the massacre as I heard and knew of it in my childhood, and it would gratify me exceedingly to hear it told and see it commemorated a century after the event occurred.

With my best wishes for the success of the commemoration, and my thanks to yourself and the committee, I am very truly yours,

N. PORTER.

Hon. G. M. Harding, Chairman, etc.

### From Ex-Senator Buckalew.

Bloomsburg, May 28th, 1878.

*My Dear Sir*—An invitation to your town on the 4th of July, with the statement of a gigantic procession through the streets, induces me to suggest the composition of one body of *distinguished* visitors:

1. Governors of Pennsylvania, in and out of office.
2. Those who *ought* to have been Governors.
3. Those who *expect* to be Governors of Pennsylvania.

In order that the last division shall not swamp the procession, it may be well to fix a maximum of, say 500.

Very truly,

C. R. Buckalew.

Hon. G. M. Harding—

I would make my suggestion to our friend Hoyt, but I hear he is prospecting for oil in the West.

### From Senator Blaine.

UNITED STATES SENATE CHAMBER, WASHINGTON, June 6, 1878.

*My Dear Sir* Mr. Blaine directs me to say in reply to your favor of the 4th inst. that he regrets very much that his engagements will not permit him to accept your kind invitation for the 4th of July.

Very respectfully, etc.,

T. H. SHERMAN, Secretary.

Hon. G. M. Harding, Chairman, etc.

### From the Postmaster-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 8, 1878.

*My Dear Sir* It will afford me great pleasure to accept your invitation of the 7th inst to be present at the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Battle and Massacre of Wyoming if my public duties will permit, but at present I am unable to promise that I will attend.

Thanking you for the invitation and trusting that circumstances may permit my attendance.

I remain very respectfully,

D. M. KEY, Postmaster General.

Hon. G. M. Harding, Chairman, etc.

### From the Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON CITY, June 19, 1878.

*My Dear Sir* The Secretary of War directs me to inform you that he regrets exceedingly that public duties will prevent an acceptance of your very kind invitation to be present on the occasion of the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Battle and Massacre of Wyoming, at Wilkes-Barre, Pa., July 3.

Very respectfully,

W. W. GELATT, Private Secretary.

Hon. G. M. Harding, Chairman, etc.

### From the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

PHILADELPHIA, June 10, 1878.

*My Dear Sir* It would afford me great pleasure to accept your kind invitation to participate in the ceremonies in commemoration of the ever-memorable Battle and Massacre of Wyoming. But domestic affliction of a very severe character will prevent me. Very truly yours,

GEO. SHARSWOOD.

Hon. Garrick M. Harding.

### From Judge Strong, of the U. S. Supreme Court.

WASHINGTON, June 1, 1878.

*My Dear Sir* I acknowledge receipt of the courteous invitation to attend the coming celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Massacre of Wyoming, and I hope to be able to accept it. I see nothing to prevent unless my court at Williamsport should be unexpectedly prolonged.

Yours very truly, W. STRONG.

Hon. G. M. Harding, Chairman, etc.

### From Judge Mercur, of the Supreme Court.

HARRISBURG, June 7, 1878.

*My Dear Sir*—It will give me great pleasure to participate in the ceremonies celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Battle and Massacre of Wyoming. I remain yours truly,

ULYSSES MERCUR.

Hon. G. M. Harding, Chairman, etc.

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### From the Prothonotary, Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.

SUPREME COURT ROOMS, HARRISBURG, June 6, 1878.

*My Dear Sir*—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of an invitation to be present and participate in the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Massacre of Wyoming, to be held July 3d next. In response to your flattering invitation I beg to say that I shall take pleasure in being present on the occasion referred to. It is a celebration worthy of the encouragement of every patriotic citizen of the Commonwealth.

I have the honor to be very respectfully,

ROBT. SNODGRASS.

Hon. G. M. Harding, Chairman, etc.

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### From William L. Stone, Historian.

NEW YORK CITY, June 14, 1878.

*My Dear Sir*—I regret that a previous engagement to deliver an address in the northern part of the State on the 4th prox. will prevent my accepting the polite invitation of yourself and committee to be present at the centennial celebration of the Battle and Massacre of Wyoming.

I trust that some of your speakers will do justice to the character of Thayendanegea (Brant), and vindicate his memory from the charge of Campbell in his "Gertrude," that he was present on the occasion of the massacre. On this point see my father's "History of Wyoming" and "Brant."

Your obedient servant, WM. L. STONE.

I should be greatly obliged if you would kindly send me a paper with the speeches, etc.

Hon. G. M. Harding, Chairman, etc.

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### From the Speaker of the H. of R. of Pennsylvania.

ALLEGHENY, May 30, 1878.

*My Dear Sir*—I am in receipt of your very kind invitation to visit Wyoming and Wilkes-Barre on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the Battle and Massacre of Wyoming. Please accept my thanks for the same, with the promise that I shall endeavor to be present on the interesting occasion, and participate in the celebration of that noted historical event.

Very truly yours, H. M. LONG.

Hon. G. M. Harding, Chairman, etc.

From the Editor of the Philadelphia "Times."

PHILADELPHIA, May 28.

*My Dear Sir*—I have your kind invitation to attend the Wyoming Centennial, and will do so with great pleasure, health permitting.

Respectfully, A. K. McCLURE.

Hon. G. M. Harding, Chairman, etc.

From Prof. Thacher, of Yale.

NEW HAVEN, CONN., May 21, 1878.

*My Dear Sir*—I thank you for your complimentary invitation to attend the celebration of the anniversary of the Massacre of Wyoming. It is an attractive invitation; but the state of my health does not permit me to promise to avail myself of it. Very respectfully, THOMAS A. THACHER.

Hon. G. M. Harding, Chairman, etc.

From Prof. Hubbard, of Yale.

YALE COLLEGE, NEW HAVEN, June 15, 1878.

*My Dear Sir*—In acknowledging the polite invitation of your committee to attend the Centennial celebration of the Battle of Wyoming, July 3d, 1878, I have to say that I expect to be absent in Europe at that time, otherwise it would afford me pleasure to accept the invitation with thanks.

Respectfully yours, STEPHEN G. HUBBARD, M. D.

Hon. G. M. Harding, Chairman, etc.

From Col. Mallery, of the U. S. Army.

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 4, 1878.

*My Dear Sir*—I have the honor and pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your invitation to the ceremonies attending the 100th anniversary of the Battle and Massacre of Wyoming, and nothing but duties now unexpected shall prevent my presence. The accident of my birth in the Valley excites my interest in the occasion far less than the prominent connection with it of life-long friends, while my recent official researches into Indian history, &c., will assist in the appreciation of its special features.

I remain with sincere regard your friend and co-namesake,

GARRICK MALLERY, Bvt. Lt. Col., U. S. Army.

Hon. G. M. Harding, Chairman, etc.

From the Secretary of the State of New York.

COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE, ALBANY June 17, 1878.

*My Dear Sir*—Your note of invitation to attend the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Battle and Massacre of Wyoming is received.

Official business will prevent my being present, but I hope that the celebration will prove to be all that its promoters desire. Thanking you for your courtesy, I am, Most truly yours. F. P. OLCOTT.

Hon. G. M. Harding, Chairman, etc.

From the Attorney-General of Virginia,

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE, RICHMOND, May 24, 1878.

*My Dear Sir* – Allow me to express my grateful thanks for your invitation to attend and participate in the 100th anniversary of the Battle and Massacre of Wyoming, on the 3d day of July next.

I shall esteem it not only a great pleasure, but a very high honor, to be present with you upon that interesting occasion, and if my official duties will permit I shall testify my appreciation of your kind invitation, and of all that is implied in the ceremonies, by being personally present with you.

I have the honor to be very truly your obedient servant,

JAS. G. FIELD.

Hon. G. M. Harding, Chairman, etc.

From Judge Boggs.

KITTANNING, June 19, 1878.

*My Dear Sir* I sincerely thank you, and the committee of which you are Chairman, for your very kind invitation requesting me to be present on the 3d and 4th of July, 1878, at the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Battle and massacre of Wyoming. I shall be with you if health permits, and I assure you it will give me extreme pleasure in taking part in celebrating an ancient battle in which the honored dead loved freedom more than life.

Yours with kindest regards, JACKSON BOGGS.

Hon. G. M. Harding, Chairman, etc.

From a Candidate for Governor.

LEWISBURG, June 3, 1878.

*My Dear Sir* – I have your favor inviting me to attend the Centennial celebration of the Battle of Wyoming.

I expect to be present and desire to express my obligations for the invitation and for the kind manner in which you have extended it.

Yours truly, A. H. DILL.

Hon. G. M. Harding, Chairman, etc.

From Prof. Loomis, of Yale.

YALE COLLEGE, May 27, 1878.

*My Dear Sir* I have received your letter announcing the proposed celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Massacre of Wyoming, and inviting me to participate in the ceremonies. I feel a deep interest in the event which you propose to commemorate, but my previous engagements will probably render it impossible for me to be present with you on the 3d of July.

Yours truly, ELIAS LOOMIS.

Hon. G. M, Harding, Chairman, etc.

### From Samuel G. Williams.

COLCHESTER, CONN. May 17, 1878.

*My Dear Sir*—Please accept my hearty thanks for your very polite invitation to attend the 100th anniversary of that day of sorrows, July 3d, 1778, in Wyoming. It would afford me much pleasure to be present; but will not I fear, be practicable. I trust the day and the transactions will be all the committee could desire.

Very Respectfully, SAMUEL G. WILLIAMS.

Hon. Garrick M. Harding, Chairman, etc.

### From Dr. Wey.

ELMIRA, N. Y. June 5, 1878.

*Dear Sir*—Accept for yourself and your associates in committee, my thanks for an invitation to be present at the one hundredth anniversary of the Battle and Massacre of Wyoming on the 3d and 4th July next.

Respectfully &c., WM. C. WEY.

Hon. Garrick M. Harding, Chairman, etc.

### From a Grand Daughter of Col. Z. Butler.

BUREAU OF EDUCATION,
WASHINGTON D. C. May 27, 1878.

Dr. and Mrs. Alexander Shiras owe many thanks to Judge Harding and his follow-committeemen for the kind invitations sent them to be present at the anniversary of the Battle of Wyoming. Mrs. S. hopes to have the pleasure of being present to commemorate an event in which her grandfather had so prominent a place. But whether her husband's duties will allow him also to appear, is yet, to his regrets, extremely doubtful.

Hon. Garrick M. Harding, Chairman, etc.

### From G. M. Beebe, Member of Congress

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.
WASHINGTON, D. C., June 10, 1878.

*Dear Sir*—I acknowledge with thanks your invitation to attend the One Hundredth anniversary of the Battle and Massacre of Wyoming, to be observed at Wilkes-Barre on the 3d of July next. I very much regret that duties here will detain me so long as to render it impossible for me to meet with you on the interesting occasion indicated. Be good enough to express to your associates my very high appreciation of their favor, and accept personally the assurances of my highest regards.

Very Truly Yours, G. M. BEEBE.

Hon. Garrick M. Harding, Chairman, etc.

### From Old Connecticut.

HARTFORD, CONN. May, 18, 1878.

*Dear Sir*—I have received the circular and invitation regarding the centennial commemoration at Wilkes Barre, July 3d 1878. It will not be convenient for me to attend, but I am pleased to see the fathers thus honored for their services and sufferings, and hope that the enterprise, of such touching and romantic, as will as patriotic interest, will be most auspiciously consummated to the satisfaction of its worthy projectors.

Yours, Respectfully, O. E. DAGGETT.

Hon. Garrick M. Harding, Chairman, etc.

### From the Easton Grays.

HEADQUARTERS, EASTON GRAYS, COMPANY "F,"
FOURTH REGIMENT, N. G., STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA,
EASTON, PA., June 11, 1878.

*Dear Sir*—It is with sincere regret that Co. "F," (Easton Grays) are compelled to decline your invitation. Our Company was organized on the 3d day of July 1873, and consequently the coming 3d is our 5th anniversary. Our friends and the Company itself, have already made very extensive arrangements towards celebrating it in a worthy style, and thus necessitates our declining.

Very Respectfully, J. W. FLAD, Sec't'y Easton Grays.

Hon. Garrick M. Harding, Chairman, etc.

### From Prof. Twitchell of Yale.

HARTFORD, CONN. June 3d, 1878.

*Dear Sir*—I am truly obliged for the invitation I have received to the centennial celebration to be held the 3d and 4th prox. I am not, however, able to accept it.

Yours, Very Truly, J. H. TWITCHELL.

Hon. Garrick M. Harding, Chairman, etc.

### From a Philadelphia Banker.

THE COMMERCIAL NATIONAL BANK OF PENN'A.
PHILADELPHIA, June 10, 1878.

*My Dear Sir*—I have delayed answering the invitation you were kind to send me, hoping as we "neared" the time, I might be able to get away, but am sorry now to say, shall not be able to accept your polite invitation.

Respectfully, Yours, JAMES L. CLAGHORN.

G. M. Harding, Esq., Chairman, etc.

From a State Senator.

LOCK HAVEN, June 8th, 1878.

Hon. Garrick M. Harding and others.

*Gentlemen*—I have had the honor to receive your very courteous invitation to participate in the anniversary exercises of the Battle and Massacre of Wyoming. Permit me to express my deep interest on the occasion, for, in what heart has not Wyoming and her deeds of honor and heroism touched a chord? Nearly thirty years ago I visited your historic scenes, and put in print my young impressions. Now it will be a real pleasure to me to call up the emotions of earlier years, and blend them upon the same scenes, with the enjoyment I shall find in the society of descendants, some of whom I know and have learned to value as friends.

Gentlemen, I respectfully accept, and unless prevented by some matter beyond my control, will be one of the throng to echo the cry, "*on Stanly on.*"

Very Respectfully, S. R. PEALE.

From Co. Bonnaffon.

CAPE MAY CITY, N. J., June 15th, 1878.

Hon. G. M. Harding, Chairman of Committee of arrangements.

*Honored Sir*—On behalf of the ex officers of the late 20th Regt. N. G. P. I accept your kind invitation for July 3d and 4th at the Wyoming Celebration, and will endeavor to notify as many of the officers as possible, to be present at that time.

Very Respectfully, S. BONNAFFON, JR.

From Judge Hall.

ECHOVALE, NEAR BEDFORD, PA., June 7, 1878.

*My Dear Sir*—I have your courteous invitation of the 1st ultimo to participate on the 3d prox. in the celebration of the centennial anniversary of the Massacre of Wyoming. It will give me great pleasure to do so if nothing intervenes to prevent.

Yours, Truly, WM. M. HALL.

To Judge Harding, Wilkesbarre.

Better late than never.

PITTSBURG, PA., 11 September, 1878.

*My Dear Judge*—An all Summer absence abroad, from which I only returned last night, I regret to say, prevented my complying with the request of your committee to participate with your numerous invited guests and selves in celebrating the One Hundredth anniversary of the Massacre of Wyoming. I can only hope, as I have no doubt you had, "a good time generally." If you had not, it certainly would be the fault of your hospitable people, as I hear and know of them. May I beg you will commend me most kindly to Judge Dana and General Hoyt; and believe me dear Judge,

Sincerely, yours, JOHN M. KILPATRICK.

Hon. Garrick M. Harding, Chairman, Wilkesbarre.

From a New York Lawyer.

No. 12 Wall St. N. Y., June 5, 1878.

Hon. Garrick M. Harding, and Gentlemen of the Committee on invitations.

*Gentlemen*—I am to-day honored by your invitation to be present at your centenary on 3d prox. I shall be only too happy to leave the many engrossing engagements of a busy lawyer life, to enable me to participate. I look forward to it with a double interest, both from pleasant memories of my visits to your beautiful vale, as well as in the expected enactment of a thrilling drama of a ruthless tragedy whose only issue was fraught with so much solid good, that many who sowed in tears, returned bearing with joy their sheaves of plenty.

Trusting that your present patriotic effort may be a complete success, and that after successive generations, the next Centenary may find your city the great Metropolis of the mineral wealth of the Susquehanna: in that event, may we not hope that they who shall then occupy your places, will equally guard the Sacred ashes and adore the memories of those who laid down their lives on your consecrated soil, that it might remain an inheritance forever to their children and a tomb to all their generations, bringing forth in large harvest the sturdy virtues of the Sires who long since dwelt therein.

Accept my sincere thanks, and believe me with real respect and regard.

Yours, Robt. Dodge.

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The following were received by Judge Dana, Chairman of the Committee on orations and poems, from eminent poets, divines and others.

From Bayard Taylor,

Pennsylvania's Favorite Poet.

New York, June 28, 1878.

*Dear Sir*—I am obliged to your Committee for the compliment implied in selecting my name. But both as an American and a Pennsylvanian, I have already performed my share in the commemoration of this centennial period. The preparation of a poem for a special occasion is the hardest task which can fall to any author—and the most thankless; for while, it is next to impossible to produce a good poem *to order*, the public is never satisfied with less than the best. I do not think that the circumstances of my having given the National ode, at Philadelphia, should make me liable for all the odes in the century—it ought rather to relieve me of any further duty of the kind. But I have been compelled to decline invitations from Saratoga, Bennington, Germantown, Oriskany, Brandywine and many other places, and therefore could not with propriety accept yours to Wyoming.

I trust that you will understand my feelings in this matter, and the absolute necessity of my adopting a resolution which compels me to disappoint you.

Very Respectfully Yours, Bayard Taylor.

Hon. E. L. Dana.

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From the author of "Hiawatha,"

Cambridge, June 7th, 1878.

*Dear Sir*—It would give me great pleasure to comply with your request if

it were in my power; but my engagements are so numerous and pressing that it is absolutely impossible for me to undertake anything new.

Regretting that I cannot meet your wishes, and those of the other gentlemen of your committee.

I am my dear sir, Yours, Very Truly, HENRY W. LONGFELLOW.

Hon. E. L. Dana.

### From the Great Quaker Poet.

OAK KNOLL, DANVERS, MASS., 1st. Mo. 17, 1878.

Hon. E. L. Dana.

*Dear Sir*—I thank thee, and through thee the committee, of which thou art Chairman for the invitation, to write something for the coming celebration of the Wyoming Tragedy. I must however decline it, as I have done many similar requests for the past year, owing to the state of my health, which will not admit of any serious mental tasks.

It has been a long desire of mine to visit your beautiful Valley, classic in the verse of Campbell; but I fear I may not be able to realize it.

Truly Thy Friend, JOHN G. WHITTIER.

### From Gen. Hawley, President of the International Exhibition of 1876.

UNITED STATES CENTENNIAL COMMISSION.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT, HARTFORD, May 2, 1878.

*Dear Sir*—I am really sorry that I cannot be with you on your "Centennial of the Battle and Massacre of Wyoming." It is well to Celebrate the anniversaries of such battles, and to make mention often of the heroes of those old days, for only thus can we hope to have heroic Spirits in our own day. And so I am sorry not to add one to the number who will crowd your lovely Valley on that day.

Before this reaches you, I shall be on my way to Europe, on business which must detain me there several months.

Sincerely and Respectfully, Yours, JOSEPH R. HAWLEY.

### From Bishop O'Harra.

SCRANTON, June 13, 1878.

Hon. Judge E. L. Dana.

*Dear Sir*—I returned to Scranton yesterday, and found your letter of invitation to be present at the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Battle and Massacre of Wyoming. I would be much pleased to take part in the ceremony for that occasion, the memory of which should be cherished most affectionately by all good citizens, and most sacredly handed down to posterity. But my appointments for the current year do not leave me free to accept. I will be absent until the middle of next July. Please accept my cordial thanks for yourself and also present the same to the gentlemen of the Committee for this mark of regard which I consider paid, not only to myself personally, but also to that body of citizens, which I, in my official capacity before the entire community in many respects represent.

Very Respectfully, Yours, etc., WILLIAM O'HARRA,
Bishop of Scranton.

# ANNIVERSARY,

## REUNIONS.

IN ACCORDANCE with a resolution heretofore passed, a special meeting of the Association was held June 8th 1879, for the purpose of arranging a program for the 101st anniversary. Charles Dorrance, President, called the meeting to order and explained the object of the call; whereupon, on motion of Dr. Hakes it was

*Resolved*, That we will meet at the Monument on the 3d day of July next, at 10 o'clock A. M., and there partake of a dinner to be provided for the occasion; and that a committee of three be appointed to make the necessary arrangements.

The chair appointed Messrs. Hakes, Jenkins and Coray to constitute such committee.

On motion of Mr. Jenkins it was

*Resolved*, That we extend a general invitation to all who have sympathised with us, and who aided us in our last year's memorial, to unite with us on the same terms as members of the Association; and that the members of the Association be requested to bring with them the lady members of their families, and such friends as they shall desire to introduce on the occasion.

On motion of Dr. Hollister,

*Resolved*, That this Association, or as many of its members as can make it convenient so to do, will attend the Chemung Centennial at Elmira, on the 29th of August next, and that all who intend going, signify the same at the 3d of July meeting.

On motion of Rev. Abel Barker,

*Resolved*, That we humbly acknowledge our gratitude to Almighty God for his infinite mercy in thus far preserving the lives of the members of this Association, and permitting them to enjoy the blessings of a healthful exercise of both mental and bodily condition.

And be it further,

*Resolved*, That in the event of a death occurring among the members of the Association, between any of the annul reunions, as hereinafter provided for, that at the next meeting a short obituary address on the life and character of the deceased, shall be prepared and read by some one of the surviving members.

*Resolved*, That the original members of this Association will meet at the Wyoming Monument on the morning of each recurring 3d of July, while any of their number shall live, there to renew their devotion to the memory of the men and women of 1778, by keeping alive the spirit that actuated us in the year 1878, and to enjoy a social repast, to be prepared as provided for in Dr. Hakes' resolution.

Mr. Barker said it is expected that the citizens throughout the valley will display their flags at half-staff in honor of the first anniversary meeting, in this the beginning of the second century after the Battle and Massacre, and at each succeeding anniversary thereafter, and it is hoped that the custom may be kept up by succeeding generations until the morning of the 200th year may again call the people to meet at this sacred fane, as they did in the year 1878, to do homage to the noble dead of Wyoming's bloody day. The annual meetings of the survivors of the Association, he could not

regard but with feelings of mournful anticipation. We are nearly all of us men bordering on the middle age of life, some perhaps having passed the allotted three score years and ten vouchsafed by God unto his creatures. It must inevitably come in the nature of things, and that at no very distant day, that some, in fact all of us will be called away to render an account of our stewardships here on Earth, and it is with feelings of sadness with which I look forward to the time when the last man, old, tottering and infirm, shall assemble himself in the shadow of the monument, on some hot July morning a few years hence to partake of his lonely meal and pay a final tribute to the memory of his departed associates.

At the suggestion of Mr. Barker, and on motion of Gen. Dana, it was ordered, That a committee of three, to be appointed by the chair, be selected to prepare a plan of permanent organization for the Association, which committee was requested to report at the opening of the meeting on the 3d.

The chair appointed Messrs Dana, Jenkins and Johnson to constitute such committee.

Adjourned to meet at the monument at 10 A. M. July 3d 1879.

## AT THE MONUMENT.

At 10,30 o'clock A. M., Col Dorrance called the meeting to order.

Rev. E. H. Snowden made an able and appropriate invocation to the Throne of Grace for a blessing upon the people there assembled, and for the Divine favor to rest upon the cause of thus patriotically honoring the memory of the dead. A volunteer chorus of ladies and gentlemen, next sang the patriotic air of "The Star Spangled Banner," after which Judge Dana took his station upon the steps of the monument and delivered the following

chaste and eloquent address, as a review and sequel to the memorial exercises of the preceding year:

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen.—

One year ago this day marked the close of a century since the fathers of Wyoming gave their lives on this plain, in defence of their loved ones at home. It was proper that an anniversary of such interest, should be observed with every mark of veneration which a grateful community and nation could bestow. It was proper that distinguished representatives of the nation and of the state should unite with the citizens of the valley, in honoring the memory of those whose heroic sacrifices and tragic fate, have awakened such wide and enduring interest. The careful research of the historian was well employed in the effort to rescue from oblivion, and to transmit to coming centuries, every incident in the record, of their courage, their endurance and suffering, which forms so prominent a chapter in the national annals. Eloquence also found on that occasion, a theme worthy its power, and with the recurrence of the day and its observance, henceforth will be indissolubly associated the name of our gifted Abbott, whose last public utterances in the Valley of his nativity and of his love, were his beautiful tribute on that Centennial afternoon one year ago, to the memory of the heroes and times of '78 Poetry and music also brought their offerings.

The immense audience which assembled that morning long before the opening services, and notwithstanding the oppressive heat and dust, gave respectful attention until the closing benediction, showed that a hundred years had not dimmed the memory, nor diminished the veneration of Wyoming for those whose blood had consecrated her soil. To have suffered that anniversary day to pass without appropriate observances, would have been disrespect to the dead and disgrace to the living.

But is it not proper, is it not a duty to usher in the first year of a second century with commemorative ser

vices? The patriots who sleep beneath this monument struggled, endured and died, not for one century alone; nor should the century bound their memories. They should not be forgotten while the blessings they secured for us are enjoyed; whilst the lands they rescued from solitude and the savage, yield their increase, or the beautiful river they loved continues to flow.

In this belief we are assembled here to-day, to bring to their shrine our annual offering. Reverence for the tombs of ancestors is as old as our race. The care, the preservation and adorning of the last resting places of their dead were held as religious obligations by the ancients. Outside their houses, near at hand in the field, was a tomb, the sacred home of the family. There the several generations of ancestors repose together. Death wraught no separation. Between the living and the dead of a family there were only the few steps that separated the house from the tomb. On certain days fixed for each family by their domestic religion, they assembled to bring their offerings, and to repair the resting places of their dead. In return they sought and believed that they received protection and aid. A community of interest was supposed to exist, the living having need of the dead, and the dead of the living. We see in their history, in the structure of their language, how much respect and reciprocal affection this belief tended to establish in the family. They gave to the domestic virtues, the obedience of the son to the father, the love which he bore to his mother, the attachment of the father and tenderness of the mother for the child, the name *piety*. Whilst we do not worship the dead, or invoke their agency in the exercise of supernatural powers, we do revere their memory and desire to imitate their virtues, and to profit by their example.

We are met together this morning, on this hallowed ground, not for mere display, or to join in mere unmeaning ceremonies, but in grateful remembrance of those who

sowed in sorrow that we might reap in joy, and to lay upon this shrine the offerings of reverent affection.

The occasion does not require, nor does the brief hour allotted permit, the rehearsal of their achievements and sufferings. The facts have been fully and faithfully collected by historians, and the story is too deeply traced on the page of memory to be forgotten. We may, however, pause to inquire what it is that gives to the persons and incidents of those times, such vitality, such enduring interest. Why have their memories survived the absorbing experience of a hundred years, and of such an hundred years? The answer is not found in their sufferings alone, nor the tragic fate which overtook them on that July afternoon. It is a benign provision that sorrow, like joy, is not enduring, that over the most poignant grief time eventually draws the kindly veil of oblivion. The memories of that July day are not all sadness; we are not here to-day wholly as mourners; the shades of those heroes revisiting this spot, could we see them, have not the aspect of victims, but wear the palms of victors, of those who conquered even in death. How much more real the life of those who fell that day under the tomahawks, than of those who, after their carnival of blood, skulked away, physically unhurt, yet in a death of ignominy and shame.

The lessons we are here to-day briefly to review, and which give meaning and point to our reverence, are those of courage, persistent endurance, energy, economy, independence and self reliance, blended with strengthened faith. The early settlers of new lands who form the substructure for future social developement like the earlier rock of our globe, are usually characterized by strength and rugged simplicity. Their circumstances, all their surroundings and experiences give prominence to the manly virtues, and especially to the courage that deliberately imperils life in defense of country and kindred, the virtue, as the word implies, of manhood and manliness. Theirs

was not mere resentment or resistance to sudden violence, attack or insult; no sudden passion that may infuriate cowardice into rashness. It was rather, the deliberate, unselfish, courage, which looking to remote results, to good in which they can hardly hope to share, move them to renounce the quiet security of their old homes, to encounter danger, and what is still more trying, to undergo ceaseless privation and trial, in building of new ones in the wilderness for themselves and posterity. This is the class of men by whom States are founded, their limits extended, the rights of life, liberty and property secured, and the forces of nature subjected to human control.

It is easy for us to enumerate the results now they are accomplished, but we cannot realize fully the trials, the endurance, the exposure by which they have been attained. Long distances were to be traversed, and supplies carried through pathless forests; at the end of their weary and perilous journey, there was no place of needed rest and repose; the stern requirement to work and to watch hailed their arrival; and with axe in one hand and a rifle in the other, they attacked the forest, toiling day by day, and sharing in guard duty at night. Nor were these severe requirements merely temporary, during an existing war, or for any definite time, but for and during their probable lives. Their enemies too, were formidable in numbers, vigilant, stealthy and cruel; against such obstacles, such discouragements and foes, the perseverence shown by the pioneers of Wyoming formed a marked trait in their characters. When the rude homes they had constructed, and the crops they had planted, were repeatedly destroyed, neither danger nor discouragement deterred them from rebuilding and replanting. Strengthened by disaster, rendered fearless by association with danger, self reliant and disciplined in defending their persons, property and rights against aggression, they were amongst the earliest advocates of independence of the mother country, and became in proportion to their numbers its staunchest defenders.

Whilst laying broad and deep the foundation of a prominent and prosperous community, they did not forget the claims of religion, and of education, and made as the records show, early and ample provision for the support of schools and a Christian Ministry.

The duties of the hour and place assigned to me to-day cannot be discharged in a proper manner without an allusion at this point, to the women, the wives and mothers of those days. Their bones do not rest under this monument, their names are not inscribed on these tablets, yet they shared fully in the trials and sufferings, and doubly in the anxieties of those times of trial. Their anxieties indeed, were multiplied by the number of tender charges to their care. No one can say, how much of the courage of the fathers, was inspired by the heroism of the wives and mothers. The matrons of Rome exhibited no such fortitude, were subject to no such trials as were here daily encountered. Some here present have listened to the narratives of daily and nightly alarm, to which they were exposed, yet tradition and imagination fail to present the full measure of their trials. What volumes of thrilling experience were buried in their now forgotten graves!

*Fellow citizens*—Shall not each recurring 3d of July be suitably observed during the century upon which we have entered? Shall not the names, the virtues, the example and sacrifices of the pioneers of Wyoming be kept in grateful remembrance?

To aid in effecting these objects, a committee appointed for that purpose, have prepared the following plan for a permanent organization, which I beg leave to present to your consideration and acceptance.

THE PLAN.

Your committee recommend—

*First.* That an Association be formed to be designated the Wyoming Commemorative Association.

*Second.* That it shall consist of such officers and members of committees, heretofore appointed and charged with the duties of commemorating, on the 3d of July 1878, the one hundreth anniversary of the Battle and Massacre of Wyoming, July 3d 1778, and such descendants of participants in the Battle, and of Pioneers of the Valley, as may signify their desire to join the Association by subscribing these articles.

*Third.* This Association shall meet on the third of July of each year, or when the 3d occurs on Sunday, on the preceding Saturday, at the monument grounds, or at such other place as the Association shall designate, and shall also meet at other times upon call of the President.

*Fourth.* The officers of this Association shall consist of one President, two Vice-Presidents, a Treasurer and Secretary, to be chosen annually by the members of the Association, not in arrear for dues.

*Fifth.* The objects of this Association are to collect and preserve the facts, traditions and incidents relating to the early history of Wyoming; to perpetuate the memory of the services and suffering of her pioneers, and thus aid in inspiring emulation of their examples.

*Sixth.* The officers of this Association shall constitute an Executive Committee, who shall meet at least one month prior to the 3d of July in each year, and prepare a plan of the order of exercises for the ensuing anniversary, and give notice of the same.

*Seventh.* The annual dues to be paid in advance by each member of the Association shall be one dollar, to be appropriated to defray the expense of publishing, in permanent form, the proceedings of the annual meetings of the Association, and for such other purposes as shall

be designated by the Executive Committee: all of which is respectfully submitted.

EDMUND L. DANA,
WESLEY JOHNSON,
STEUBEN JENKINS,
Committee.

WYOMING JULY 3d 1879,

The report was unanimously adopted.

Among other citizens who had taken and active part in the centennial services of 1878, there were present at the monument, Hon. L. D. Shoemaker, Dr. H. Hakes who delivered one of his characteristically eloquent addresses, Calvin Parsons who lead in the vocal music, George Coray, Steuben Jenkins, Col. Charles Dorrance President of the Association from the beginning, Wesley Johnson, Secretary, Rev. E. H. Snowden, James P. Atherton, Rev. Abel Barker, Dr. W. H. Bradley of the *Record of the Times*, John Espy, Bradley Smith, Rev. F. B. Hodge, John B. Smith, R. J. Wisner, Abram Lines, James A. Gordon, John Welles Hollenback, Edward Welles, Rev. H. H. Welles, Capt. Chester Tuttle, Elisha Blackman, Payne Pettebone, Hubbard B. Payne, Charles A Miner, His Excellency Henry M. Hoyt, Governor of the Commonwealth, Gen. John F. Hartranft Ex-Governor, Dr. H. Hollister, B. H. Pratt of the *Scranton Republican*, C. I. A. Chapman, Miss. Susan E. Dickinson, &c.

The morning exercises closed by singing "America" and a Benediction by Rev. F. B. Hodge.

The people then repaired to the Wyoming Hotel where about one hundred sat down to a splendid repast prepared by Col. Laycock.

The first toast, "The United States", was responded to by Gen. Hartranft, as he being Post master of Philadelphia was a proper representative of the United States Government to speak in behalf of the whole country. The General said it would suit him better to speak later in the exercises, and being called upon at short notice he

did not know what response to make, and as his friend General Hoyt had supereeded him in the Gubernatorial office, he thought the best thing he could do was to step down and out and let the Governor respond to the second sentiment—the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Governor Hoyt made a few off hand remarks and some happy hits, retiring in good order from the contest of wit and sentiment, which seemed to be the ruling spirit of the hour.

George R. Bedford Esq., in a carefully prepared speech responded to the fifth sentiment, and Dr. Hollister gave some interesting facts relative to the history of Luzerne County. Steuben Jenkins, in his pains taking way reviewed the subject of the Wyoming Prisoners.

John Espy and Abel Barker, each in his place delighted the guests for a short time.

Stanley Woodward got off some good things in his after dinner style of oratory, and Dr. Hakes amused the people for a few minutes in his hard headed common sense way.

Payne Pettebone gave a brief and concise history of the Wyoming monument, from the time of finding the place where the bodies of the slain were first interred, in 1832, down to the present, all of which he saw and part of which he was.

Mr. Henry H. Welles spoke in behalf of the clergy, and Mr. Wesley Johnson for the press as follows:

I feel honored by your preference in selecting me to respond to the sentiment, "The Press," but I fear I shall reflect but small honor on the profession by the few and crude remarks I shall have to make in its behalf. If you had before you some one of the distinguished gentlemen of the great Metropolitan Journals of the country, he might justly claim your attention, and you would listen to him with pleasure, and I doubt not with profit; but I

feel that the best service I could render you would be to stop where I am; besides I am not vain enough to claim a very close fellowship with the honored fraternity of editors. But since you have invited me to the task, it would be churlish in me not to attempt to say a few words on the subject.

The triumph of mind over mere brute force is happily put, in the well known expression attributed to the Great Cardinal of France, where the dramatist makes him to say that "In a nation Supremely great, the pen is mightier than the sword," and if we but substitute the word "Press" for pen, we will more fully comprehended the force of this grand utterance The word pen has a poetic fitness of name and origin to its office, and it was eminently proper for the Prince Cardinal to apply it in that connection, as in the language of old Rome we have the word penna, a quill or feather, and a feather plucked from a gray goose's wing, was the only instrument by which our forefathers, before the age of printing from types, were enabled to communicate their thoughts, in the spreading of light and knowledge throughout the world. And as the pen is but the instrument to register the inspirations of genius, so, the press is but a more perfect mechanical combination, to multiply, ten million times, it may be, the power of extension to the thoughts of the great master minds, that are to-day, moulding sentiments for good or evil, in all civilized nations of the Earth. To-day, we behold the spectacle of the Autocrat of all the Russias, the proud despot, who by the law of his realm, holds absolute power over the lives and liberties of his millions of subjects, protected as he is by his grand army, trembling on his throne, before the unseen but potent printing press, which scatters the dreaded Nihilistic appeals to the down trodden people, now struggling for a more free and enlightened form of government as lavishly, but mysteriously and silently, as the snowflakes that fall upon their rude dwellings in the darkness of their long winter nights.

Tyrants in all countries have feared the Press, and endeavored by restrictive laws to render it subservient to their own corrupt use; but in England and Free America, where the people through their representatives rule, all questions of public policy, and the acts of all public servants can be discussed without let or hindrance; and it is only when some unworthy member of the profession seeks to lay before the public false accusations against the public or private citizen, that his licentiousness is condemned by the law of the land.

The influence of the press, particularly in a country like ours, is almost incalculable; it is the mighty lever that moves the destinies of the world. An ancient heathen mathematician and philosopher said of mechanical power, given a fulcrum on which to rest his engine, and it would be possible to multiply leverage that would move the solid earth. We have that fulcrum established in the education of the masses of the people, and the very foundations of the world of thought, on subjects political and spiritual, are being moved from their solid places by the power of the press. The orator in pulpit or forum, may sway his thousands by the power of his burning eloquence, but the editor has his millions for an audience; and whatsoever the united press of the country would build up, that shall be exalted; and whatsoever it would pull down, that will be abased. The majority of mankind are too busy or too indolent to think for themselves, and are content that others should do it for them, and the utterances put forth during the last quarter of a century in the great metropolitan journals, by a Greeley, a Bennett, a Raymond, a Mc Michael and hundreds of others of lesser note in the world of journalistic fame, have been more potent in the formation of a national sentiment in our people, than all the orations and sermons, as such, that have been spoken since the "Mayflower" landed her first Pilgrims on Plymouth Rock.

But in order that the world may be made better, and not worse by so powerful an instrument in the hand of man, it is essential that journalists should be men of pure morals and endowed with a sense of lofty patriotism. It is not to be supposed that men of the highest intellectual attainments may not some times err in judgment; that their conclusions may not some times be erroneous; and there are questions upon which men may honestly differ in their opinions, and it is for time alone of demonstrate the truth of the matter under discussion. In this, as in all other professions and callings, there are grades of respectability in the members, and while liberty of the Press to print all matters necessary for the people, should be preserved inviolate, the licentiousness of the Press, and the mendacity of unprinciple scribblers, should be sternly rebuked and punished if need be by the strong arm of the law. The liberty of the Press is the Ægis of popular liberty, but the licentiousness of the Press is moral death to society. I trust that the people of these free United States will ever preserve, protect and cherish the one as carefully, as they sternly and promptly rebuke the other.

Mr. C. I. A. Chapman replied in an eloquent manner to the sentiment, Wyoming, after which the Chairman Col. Dorrance, declared the exercises of the re-union closed.

# ANNIVERSARY.

## SECOND REUNION.

THE ASSOCIATION met on the 22d of May, 1880, under a call by the president. Col. Dorrance called the meeting to order, and in a few well put observations explained the object of this meeting to be to arrange the preliminaries for our next meeting on the 3d of July. After arranging for the 102d anniversary meeting as follows:

That the services of our next meeting conform as nearly as may be to those observed last year, and that the same rules regarding the dinner and refreshments be observed. On motion, adjourned to assemble again on Saturday the 26th of June, inst.

The Association met agreeably to adjournment at Court Room No. 1, at 10 o'clock A. M. There were present Charles Dorrance President, Wesley Johnson Secretary, L. D. Shoemaker Treasurer; and the following members: Steuben Jenkins, Dr. H Hollister, Calvin Parsons, E. L. Dana, Dr. H. Hakes, George Coray, Payne Pettebone, E. G. Buttler, James A. Gordon and Marx Long.

Dr. Hakes suggested that as this Association is not expected to die out with the passing away of its present members, that a rule be adopted that each member, during his life, may name a suitable person to be his successor; if none be named, the Association to fill the vacancy by appointment. Judge Dana moved to amend

by authorizing the President to name a committee of three to report a plan to perpetuate the organization, with a view to keeping it alive until the bi-centennial of the Battle and Massacre, if possible. Dr. Hollister approved of Judge Dana's motion, but moved to postpone any action in the matter, with the view of first obtaining an order of court, under authority of law, making this Association a body corporate. Dr. Hakes seconded this motion, whereupon it was adopted, and the chair appointed Messrs Dana, Hakes and Jenkins to constitute such committee on corporation.

Mr. Jenkins reported the proposed order of exercises and the meeting adjourned to meet at the foot of the monument on Saturday next, July 3d, that being the 102d anniversary of the Battle and Massacre.

## MEETING AT THE MONUMENT.

On the morning of July 3d the air was cool and bracing, and in this respect very different from that of the great centennial year. The flag staff and the monument were dressed in the identical centennial buntingof 1878, and the monument was decked in evergreens, flowers and sheaves of ripened wheat, when at 11 o'clock Col. Dorrance called the meeting to order, and invited Rev. H. H. Welles to open the exercises with prayer; after which "America" was sung by a chorus of young lady voices assisted by Messrs Jenkins and Parsons. Col. Dorrance made one of his happy impromptu addresses as an opening to the exercises.

Rev. Andrew Brydie, of Pleasant Valley, made a short address, during which he said he could hardly be expected to feel in these matters the same degree of enthusiasm as animated the hearts of the immediate descendants of the colonists who fell here in 1778, being himself a loyal subject of Queen Victoria, by the grace of God, ruler of Great Britain. But being a dweller in this free and hap-

py land, he respected its institutions and the cherished objects of memory of the people, and next to his own bonnie Scotland, he regarded America as the fairest land that ever the Sun shone on. He said, that in the Providence of God, England and America were destined to give language to, and shape the institutions of the world.

Dr. Hakes, being called upon, said, he knew not what better to say on this occasion than to read the inscription written in enduring marble on the tablet set up in one of the sides of this plain pillar of stone before us; it reads: "Near this spot was fought, on the afternoon of Friday, the third day of July, 1778, the Battle of Wyoming, in which a small band of Americans, with a courage that deserved success, boldly met, and bravely fought, a combined British, Tory and Indian force of thrice their number. Numerical superiority alone gave success to the invader, and wide-spread havoc, desolation and ruin, marked his savage and bloody footsteps through the valley. This monument, commemorative of these events, and of the actors in them, has been erected over the bones of the slain, by their descendents and others, who gratefully appreciated the services and sacrifices of their patriotic ancestors." This, my friends, tells the whole story, and we have come here to-day to gratefully remember the services and sacrifices of the ancestors of many I see around me—not my ancestors, for I am not descended from these brave men, and am content to count myself among the "others" as written in the inscription from which I have just repeated the story. But I am of our common country, and partake some of the glory, and I have come here to-day to do my share in helping to keep alive an interest in this day, upon this hallowed spot, and while I live I am going to keep doing it, and I am glad to see around me so many who are not wholly unmindful of the past, and can devote one day in the rolling year to honor the memory of their ancestors on this blood

stained field. But as there are other gentlemen who have come here prepared to give you a better speech than I am capable of, I will now give way for my friend Mr. Hayden, who is no doubt charged to the muzzle with historic facts.

Rev. H. E. Hayden after some perliminary remarks as an off set to Dr. Hakes' humorous conclusion said, "My friends, I heartily congratulate you upon the public spirit which has led you to commemorate the event of the 3d of July, 1778, and to recall to the minds of their decendants the heroism of those whose struggle for all that makes life worth living, was so brave yet so apparently unsuccessful. If I have a suggestion to make it is, that you perpetuate this commemoration by making such arrangements for its continuance annually, that it shall not become a forgotten fact.

Some of you may have read Miller's History of Switzerland. If so, you will remember how just five hundred years ago next Friday, on the 9th of July, 1380, the Swiss army engaged in deadly combat with the army of Austria, and won the independence of that glorious Republic which lies the only oasis of liberty in the midst of a Sahara of despotism. For some time that day the battle was doubtful; the long lances of the Austrians frustrated every effort of the Swiss to break their ranks. When many patriots had fallen, a noble Knight named Arnold Von Winkelreid cried out to his companions: "Faithful, dear confederates!—think of my family—I will make a way for you!"—Then rushing on the line of the enemy he grasped as many of the lances as he could reach, and with a strong effort brought them to a focus bearing on his own breast, and fell pierced with many wounds. Through the breach thus made, his companions sprang quickly, and won the battle of Sempach. For five hundred years the people of Sempach have gathered annually at that sacred spot where the victory is commemorated by four large crosses. There to cele-

brate the event by addresses and songs of praise—by calling the roll of the 200 dead who fell in the battle, and in swearing fealty to their country for life. My friends, imitate these patriots—teach your children of the gallant deeds of their forefathers—educate them in the history of *their own country first*—teach them who their fathers, and your fathers and grand fathers were—town, county, state and country history. Teach them to value the heritage which their ancestors here on this spot battled to secure, and perpetuate your work, so that 500 years henceforth the decendants of the Knights whose names are blazoned on yonder marble slabs, annually go there to make addresses, sing songs of praise and to call the battle roll of the dead, and so commemorate the deeds of their forefathers."

Miss Susan E. Dickinson read the following original poem composed expressly for the occasion, with her usual grace and elegance:

ONCE more we gather in our glorious vale
To honor those whose memory Fame shall keep
Sacred with theirs whom Greece, renowned of old,
Named as her martyr heroes, those whose deed
Made famous grand Thermopylæ. These died
To save their homes and altars. Did they fail
Because the summer day looked its farewell
On their dead, upturned faces, and their hearths
Made desolate? The story of their brave
Unequalled fight has stirred a world to keep
Their memory green—made many a strong heart thrill
With stronger pulse, awaiting duty's call—
Awakened Campbell's muse to sing the tale
Of Albert and Gertrude, and has given
An ever recurring and noble theme,
To story and to song. Wyoming's name
Is one with theirs in men's rememberances:
And the fair valley, beautiful as dreams

Henry M. Boyle

Of lost Atlantis and its sunset plains,
Drew first pilgrims here as to a shrine.
These came and saw its loveliness, and so
Went back and told their homes—we found
A landscape full of peace, of rest, of joy,
Stretching out wide from the famed battlefield.
There are far grander scenes where Alpine heights,
Lift up their rose crowned ice peaks—none more fair
Has earth to show; none where the heart is held
By subtle influences that say, O, stay!
Here still is an inspiration to brave deeds,
To noble living; to all worthy acts
That war or peace may call for; if still
Life calls you hence we send with you a thought;
A mingled memory of lives laid down
Grandly for home and altar—and of all
Such sacrifice has won.
So year by year
The record grows of those who come and go,
And carry with them as a treasure hence
The name and fame of Wyoming. Should we—
Whose fair inheritance was won by those
Whose simple monumental stone in sight
Uprises,—should we fail to bring our gift
Of song, of speech, or flowers; nay—most of all—
Of loving memories—of hearts that say,
"Our lives shall be our best memorial."

The following letter from Governor Hoyt was then read:

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA,
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,
Harrisburg, June 29th, 1880.

*Hon. Steuben Jenkins, Wyoming, Pa.*

*My Dear Sir:*—

I had hoped to comply with your kind suggestion to make a short address on the character of the Connecticut Settlers, before your association on the 3d proximo. I have had a painful fight with rheumatism for three months, and so far have got the worst of it. At the date mentioned I shall be absent on what I hope will be a final campaign against it.

Judging from my own experience, I am persuaded that there is little real knowledge, and a very inadequate appreciation of the men who settled the Seventeen townships of Connecticut. On their part, it was an exodus from their old homes, for the pure and simple purpose of founding new homes, and

laying a foundation for the physical and moral well being of themselves and their children. There was no idea of Empire in the movement. They went to the wilderness and to harpships, as courageous, persistent and honest a body of men as ever confederated for a high and legitimate motive. Unfortunately they fell into a dispute about territorial jurisdiction, and the immediate representative of the Province of Pennsylvania, of course, resented, their presence as an invasion, and for many years made inadequate and futile resistance.

The Connecticut people were outside the sympathies of the officers of the Province, and of many of the people; and their descendants yet bear unpleasant memories of those Yankees, and for aught I know, of their descendants: but the great mass of the frontiersmen, German and Scotch-Irish — themselves the victims of imperfect protection against the savages, whom the Quakers were unwilling to regard as enemies and evil-doers, sympathized in the highest manner with the settlers along the upper Susquehanna.

The controversy was bitter; at times bloody, and lasted from 1763 to 1799. For self possession, calmness and philosophic waiting for deliverance, the conduct of these people was admirable.

It is time some exhaustive, but accessible view of these men, their conduct, their motives, and their patient heroism, was brought before their descendants. What they did on the 3d of July, 1778, strangers in, to them a strange land, their title to which was denied, exalts into a new level the mere patriotism of other great sufferers.

I trust that at your pleasant gathering you will be able to look back over the intervening century, and see what a grand and brave strain, and what a fine fibre was upon the brains and hearts of the men whose memories you meet to fitly commemorate.

Again regretting my absence, I am,

Yours very truly,

HENRY M. HOYT.

Thus it will be seen, after long years of tedious waiting, the men of Connecticut who first settled our Valley, and who in their lives were regarded as free-booters and traitors by the early Governors of the Province, are here fully vindicated and eulogized by another Governor who has carefully reviewed the question in the light of justice, and this vindication though late, comes to us unsought, in a semi-official character bearing date in, and emanating from the Executive Chamber of the Commonwealth, under the hand and sanction of the legally constituted successor of the great William Penn himself.

Mr Chapman delivered a ringing little speech of five minutes, after which the guests proceeded to the Hotel of Col. Laycock to partake of a bountiful repast.

Judge Dana was called to preside over the after dinner exercises. In assuming the honors of presiding over the further deliberations of the meeting, the Judge said that Col. Dorrance, with himself and others, three years ago undertook the organization of this society to give direction only, and not to arrogate to themselves the sole right of keeping these events in mind; outside parties are wanted to take an interest in it. Some jealousy has been felt that those who were instrumental in forwarding the one hundredth anniversary exercises, had taken it upon themselves to be custodians of the memories of those who gave their lives for their principles. These had a right, and it was proper for them as the immediate descendants, to initiate the movement, but they wanted others to take an interest also.

Some had said this was no event of any considerable importance; that it was only a little skirmish. Great battles are not necessary—the number of men engaged and the shedding of much blood is not necessary to make an event important—this battle is remembered in detail a hundred years after, the day, as vividly as ten years after, which is all that can be said of any of the great battles of Napoleon. The importance depended on the result. This battle lead to the expedition of Gen. Sullivan of the following year, which forever wiped out the power of the Iroquois in the state of New York, where they were still living in all the pride and power of their original independence. This was the beginning of that series of events, which, step by step ended in the surrender at Yorktown. The story of Wyoming at once brought to the American cause the influence of the conservatives in the British parliament and materially aided the struggling colonists to achieve their independence.

Dr. Hollister excused himself from saying any thing at this time.

Rev. H. H. Welles made a short speech in which he alluded to the fact that his ancestor (Matthias Hollenback,) as well as the grand father of the President of the Association was engaged in the terrible work on that memorable day, and that while the one fell to fill a bloody grave, it was the good fortune of the other to live to accumulate wealth so as to render his descendants independent of the active cares of life.

It is worthy of note, that thus far no death has occurred among the officers or members of the original Executive Committee, therefore the sad duty, as provided by resolution, of preparing a brief eulogy, to be read at any one of these annual meetings, to the memory of any deceased member, has been graciously spared to the living associates.

After a little more social talk among the persons assembled, the gathering adjourned to meet at the same place at 10 a. m. on the 2d of July, 1881, the 3d on this year falling on Sunday.

# ANNIVERSARY.

## THIRD REUNION.

THE Association met at the Court House in Wilkesbarre on the 11th of June, 1881, agreeably to the call of the president: There were present Charles Dorrance, President, L. D. Shoemaker, Treasurer, Wesley Johnson, Secretary, and Messrs E. L. Dana, Calvin Parsons, Dr. H. Hollister, Abel Barker, H. Hakes, D. S. Bennet and Marx Long of Committees.

Judge Dana, Chairman of Committee reported a plan for organization and incorporation which was read and committee continued for further action.

The following officers were then elected for the ensuing year.

President, Charles Dorrance.

Vice Presidents: E. L. Dana, L. D. Shoemaker, Calvin Parsons, Dr. H. Hollister and Steuben Jenkins;

Treasurer, Dr. Harry Hakes;

Recording Secretary, Wesley Johnson;

Corresponding Secretary, Abel Barker;

Librarian, D. S. Bennet.

On motion Resolved: That a committee of three to be named by the chair, be appointed, to make arrangements for the annual service and dinner at Wyoming, on the 2d of July next.

Messrs. Bennet, Barker and Jenkins, were appointed to constitute such committee.

On motion, Messrs. Hollister, Shoemaker, Dana and Hakes were appointed a committee to prepare the order of exercises for the day.

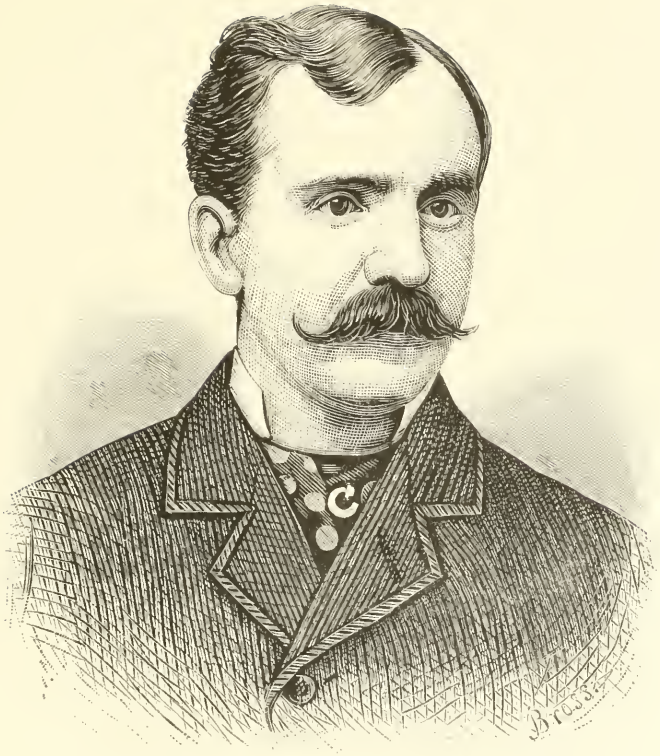
On motion, Resolved: That a committee of five, of which the Secretary shall be chairman, be appointed as a committee on publication, to arrange the matter and provide means for printing in substantial book form, all the proceedings of this association from its first meeting on the 3d of July, 1877, to the present time; including the addresses, orations, poems and all other proceedings of the memorial services on the 3d and 4th of July, 1878. The President thereupon named Messrs. Johnson, Bennet, Jenkins, Dana and Hakes to constitute such committee.

Adjourned to meet at Wyoming monument, at 10 o'clock a. m. on Saturday, July 2d, 1881.

## THIRD ANNIVERSARY EXERCISES.

Saturday the 2d of July, 1881, was a perfect day in all its early summer luxuriance. The heat was not oppressive but the shade was gratefully sought by many of the assemblage of perhaps two hundred persons, gathered within the monument enclosure for the purpose of rehearsing the old story of the times and the event they were about to commemorate on this, the one hundred and third anniversary, of the battle, now become the event of the year for the village of Wyoming. The meeting was fixed this year on the 2d and not on the 3d, the actual anniversary, the reason being that the 3d falls on Sunday and its observance on that day is hardly regarded as decorous by the association.

At 11 o'clock Col. Dorrance called the meeting to order, disclaiming any intention to make a speech, further than to welcome the few who were present, and said he hoped they would all return from year to year to commemorate the day of all others held dear and sacred to



Very truly
D S Bennet

MAJ D S BENNET

the memories of our forefathers whose remains repose beneath this simple shaft of mountain stone erected to mark the spot of their last resting place here on earth.

The entire company gathered at the monument, then sung in chorus that grand old hymn

"From all that dwell beneath the skies."

An eloquent and fervent prayer was offered by Rev. Abel Barker, invoking the Divine blessing to rest upon all assembled here, and that peace and plenty may never fail us while we continue to serve the Lord and do his Heavenly will.

Rev. Henry L. Jones, Rector of St. Stephens Episcopal Church, Wilkesbarre, favored the association and assembled citizens with the following chaste and appropriate Eulogy to the martyred dead :

Ladies and Gentlemen ; Fellow countrymen : We meet on one of those anniversary occasions which have well and wisely been called "heartlinks"—heartlinks between the future and the past : "When a common joy or common sorrow falls on kindred hearts, kindred in blood or country, or in faith, it melts them all, and melts them into one. And then the day that makes it annual, takes its color to them all and sways them to its tone."

To-day, we go back in thought to a field of blood and suffering, sacred to many before me, as identified with personal reminiscences poured into the listening ear of childhood–sacred to all as identified with our country's honor and renown–immortal the world over, for, historian and poet, novelist and artist have given their choicest efforts in depicting what befell "On Susquehanna's side (at) fair Wyoming," a little more than a century ago. A hundred times and more, since then, has winter covered the streams with massive crystal, and spread the marvellous beauty of the snows over field and forest, vale and hillside. A hundred times and more, the snows and ice have melted in the breath of Spring and vegetation has renewed itself in verdure and bloom. A hundred

times and more the sultry summer has brooded over the hills and warmed the deepest valleys. A hundred times and more, has summer ripened into autumn, and then:

> "The melancholy days have come, the saddest of the year,
> Of wailing winds and naked woods and meadows brown and sere."

The Sun that shone upon our fathers' fathers, pours upon us from the same deep blue sky, the same exhaustless flood of warmth and splendor. Nature in its perpetual changes, perpetually reproduces itself. But history, is not merely a record of the weather, deals with something else than the mere ongoing of nature; it has to do with events that spring from man's intelligence and voluntary power, and the diversified influences which, under an overruling Providence act on human character and human welfare. That simple shaft, hewn from the solid rock, recalls the history of a generation of the national life—its days of darkness and of woe, its throes of agony and its majestic triumphs. All this is epitomized as we look down upon the silent dust of the men who fell in the great struggle for freedom to which they "gave their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor." There is a voice that issues thence to stir our inmost souls. It leads us back to the presence and the heroism of our dead fathers. There throb in it the stern pulses of martyr life. It is keyed to the music of early forest temples, where,

> "The sounding aisles of the dim woods rang,
> To the anthem of the free."
> "Some when they die, die all; their mouldering clay
> Is but an emblem of their memories;
> The space quite closes up thro' which they passed."

Not so with these.

> "That which the open book could never teach,
> The closed one whispers."

It is easy to be brave when things go well; it is easy to head a work of triumph, or be borne onward on the chariot of success; but when the stake in life is heavily against us; when our friends and allies hesitate; when support is unattainable or grudgingly offered; when for-

tune and fame seems to smile on that against which we contend; then to watch and seize every opportunity; never to be disheartened; never to be dismayed; ever and ever to persevere, demands the spirit of a hero. Such were they who died

> * * * "midst flame and smoke,
> And shout and groan and sabre stroke,
> And death shot falling thick and fast"

in the "Battle and Massacre of Wyoming."

Of the details of those eventful days; of the memories of household altars then deserted; of the back-ground of character, which lends weight to the priceless heritage bequeathed; of the changes time has wrought; of these, it is not my office to speak. Others will tell again the sad familiar tale of tragedy and blood. Were I to venture in *this* presence before so many able local historians as I see around me, I fear I should appear to disadvantage in their eyes for lack of knowledge in points of detail which to them are but as household words, and my blundering might excite a smile, if not a pity in their minds. I shall therefore not attempt it. My duty is but to spread the cloth for the feast of good things which other tongues more eloquent than mine, and minds more richly stocked with historic lore, backed by the rights of ancestral privilege, stand ready to provide. Yet before I close, let me remind you of one feature of this monument, which reflects credit on the foresighted, broadminded patriotism of those to whose energetic and loving efforts its erection is due. Among the memorials of the Revolutionary period, it stands, if I am not misinformed, unique in this; that while others tell out to posterity, *only* the names and deeds of gallant officers, well known on pages of historic fame, this recognizes a greatness in unknown names; a claim to common immortality on the part of all, officers and men, high and low, who did their duty because it was their duty, and did it all.

We are told that years after the celebrated battle of Thermopylæ, a traveler on visiting the spot found a monument with the simple inscription, "stranger, go tell at Lacedæmon that we died in obedience to her laws.' "Why is it," he asked "that the names of those who fell here are not inscribed on the stone?" "Because," was the proud reply, "it is impossible that any Greek should ever forget them."

But my friends, while it may be truly said of the men of Wyoming, their acts are graven on the hearts of their countrymen, and time hath no power to obliterate the characters, and that, throughout this broad land,

> "The meanest rill, the mightiest river,
> Rolls mingling with their fame forever;"

it is also true, that Spartan simplicity reckoned not on the lawlessness of the days of free inquiry and adventurous speculation; the keenness and accuteness of our nineteenth century criticism, the ease with which we set aside the actual and historical character of those who occupied even the most distinguished places in past times.

All honor to the fair women of Wyoming, that, graven on this obelisk of stone, their offering in memory of the patriotic dead, the record is complete. Not a single name shall be "erased or polluted, not a single star obscured" by any historic doubts that rise. These, at least were *men*, not myths. They belong to the world and can never pass away. They abide forever. They will live to teach the future. Ages to come shall hallow their memory.

Mrs. Harriet Gertrude Watres of Scranton, "Stella of Lackawanna" had prepared a poem for the occasion, entitled "The Wyoming Monument", but not being present in person, Judge Dana was requested to read it, which he did in a masterly and effective manner. The words are as follows:

> Is it only a dream, that our valley
> So peerless in beauty to-day,

With the peace of the dawn in each sunset
That lightens the landscape, once lay
Writhing under the sorrowful starlight,
With bosom dismantled and torn
By the tooth of a slaughter more monstrous
Than ever made ghastly the morn?

Who would say—glancing down these pure meadows,
Still flushed by the bold gaze of June—
And their full-nested verdure a-quiver
With silence unbroken in tune,
That along these broad slopes rang the war-cry
That startled and thrilled all the land,
While but savage delight marked the noon-day
And blazed in the night-kindled brand?

Ah! we need not yon tablet of granite
Time-marred and storm-written, to tell
Who the heroes that valaintly struggled
For birth-right and fireside—and fell
'Mong the furrows their glad feet had followed
In many a dew-sparkling morn,
Ere the orchards grew tinted with promise,
Or shaped the green arrows of corn:

For our hearts can afresh the sad story,
The many tongued summons repeat
In the scent of mown grass by the hedges,
And affluent stretches of wheat:
As our fancy wings back o'er the distance
That bridges a century's tide,
To the fields where our kinsman lay murdered,
That sweet healing time may not hide.

And the better we love the fair valley,—
Aye, fair as the shore of a dream
When the moon hangs in mist o'er the maples
With young love awake in her gleam;
That it's pitying turf spreads a pillow
As soft as the dying might know;
And a couch for the white-bosomed mother,
With babes clasped in hunger and woe.

Who would chide, though our pulses grew quickened,
To-day o'er the massacred dead ?
Or who smile, that each eloquent summer
Brings back the old summons of dread ?
Till the twilights grow peopled with phantoms
That through all the shadowy wood ;
As grim ghouls through invisible gateways
To feast at a banquet of blood.

On the shore of our valley enchanted
With garlands half mingled with pain
Press we now to do homage, as children
Of sires in their loyalty slain ;
And, where met they those dusky marauders,
And perished in claiming their own,
With bared brow and low speech would we hallow
Anew this memorial stone.

Lightly blown be the breezes that fan it ;
Caressing the touch of the rain ;
Let the sunbeams the lone crypt remember,
And pause in their dance on the plain.
Be the green spot of earth that up-bears it
With loving concern on its breast,
Ever sacred to those who defended
The vale, where, as martyrs they rest.

Mr. Charles I. A. Chapman next ascended the steps of the monument and made an address which he said had been prepared for the 1878 exercises. It was replete with classic allusions gathered from ancient history, and was listened to with marked attention. His peroration was a caustic arraignment of the policy—political, commercial and social of the age—dwelling particularly upon the depravity of the political condition of the country. During the delivery of which the audience was shocked by the announcement in suppressed whispers, "The President has been assassinated," and a feeling of deep sorrow fell upon all present. This report proved all too true for in that hour President Garfield had received his death wound at the hands of the infamous assassin Guiteau.

Rev. David Craft, of Wyalusing, then spoke. He referred to the common property of this memorial event; said it was not the property of this region alone, but of the whole country. He had faith in any land that was true to the patriotism of its fathers, and kept green the memory of those who fell in defense of their country. Such a feeling was the antidote of those forebodings which his predecessor had just bewailed. Wyoming is not isolated. It had its antecedents and consequences. It was not a turning point in our history. He traced the connection between the Wyoming Massacre and the Sullivan campaign. He said that those who died on Wyoming's field, and whose bones lie beneath this shaft, gave their lives for more than they thought and more than their generation thought. The speaker dwelt eloquently upon the lesson, that he who fights for, and dies for a principle is sure to live in the hearts of his countrymen for ages to come.

Rev. H. E. Hayden upon being introduced to the audience, spoke as follows, indulging at the same time in a slight vein of sarcasm in making some of his points:

Not having seen my name on the printed programme as a speaker, I feel as if the distinguished committee of arrangements had taken a "snap judgment" on me, in calling for an address, without giving me proper time for preparation. It is embarrassing to speak of Wyoming history in the presence of six historians of Wyoming. However, it is possible that Wyoming history may not be so widely known in detail outside of this circle, that a little reference to it should come amiss. I was interested a few days ago, in an article in the Weekly *Leader*, from the pen of my venerable friend James A. Gordon of Plymouth. In it he stated his purpose to defend the character of Col. Zebulon Butler from the charges made against him, though he did not in his article make any such defence. As my great grandfather was Butler's

Adjutant General during the Revolution, I had learned to regard the Colonel's character as above reproach, and asked myself—What defence does Col. Butler need at any man's hand in this day of historical research? Who believes any charges against Zebulon Butler? Then I remembered how many historic myths still burdened the pages of history. How our school histories still perpetuated the old and exploded story that Pocahontas had saved Capt. Smith's life; how School Histories still repeated the old fable that Maryland was a Roman Catholic Colony—and that Romanists had passed the first act of religious toleration in America, and I thought it is possible that some believe to-day the old, old slanders about Col. Butler. The thought drove me to my library for investigation, and to my surprise I found it true, that this man—*sans peur et sans reproche*—the gallant soldier and chivalrous gentleman Zebulon Butler was still regarded by some writers, who take their history always second handed, as having been derelict in his duty at Wyoming. And I learned also that even in my small library there are three distinct accounts of the event which to-day we commemorate. How is it possible, ladies and gentlemen, that the truth of our history can be reached by the majority of readers, with three distinct versions of it in circulation? Let me tell you briefly what these three are—

First, let me remind you, that you have not yet reached the true "American Catholicity"-which was lately exampled by a distinguished citizen of America, C. W. Field of N. Y., who erected on the spot where Andre was hanged, a cenotaph to commemorate his virtues. The greatest of British spies, whose manly virtues wrung tears from foes, and won the sympathy of the world, Andre, died as deserved a death as any felon who ever stepped upon the gallows, and yet an American has erected a monument to his memory. If one of the histories to which I refer, be true, we have in this Valley, somewhere, the remains

of Col. Butler, Jos.Brandt and Sir William Johnson, his reputed father. And yet no granite shaft, no sculptured marble, no funeral urn, no engraven brass marks the spot where these three heroes lie buried. I say we have not reached the true standard of American Catholicity.

On the 3d of July 1778 the massacre of Wyoming occurred. July 20th 1778, there appeared in the *New York Journal* a very extravagant account of the affair, stating that Col. John Butler with 1600 Indians, and tories painted like Indians, had descended on the fort at Wyoming, defended by 400 patriots under command of Cols Butler and Denison. To the demand for a surrender of the fort, Col Denison had replied, asking on what terms — John Butler replied "The Hatchet." The terms were refused; and the battle began, resulting in the defeat of the colonists. John Butler took 145 scalps. Seventy-two escaped to Wilkesbarre, the remainder having been shut up with the women and children in houses and burnt them alive. Then crossing over to Wilkesbarre he had captured and scalped the 70 who had escaped from Wyoming and shutting up the women and children in houses, had fired the houses and burnt them alive. Upon this statement Thatcher, Gordon, Drake and Marshall, in his first edition of his life of Washington had based their statements of the event. For 50 years this was the accepted account of the massacre of Wyoming. Half a century ago this statement was largely altered by the careful research of historians, and Chapman, Miner, Pearce, Peck, Stone, Wright, Jenkins, and even the *distinguished* historian. Clarke of Scranton, and the *extinguished* historian of Munsell's magnificent fraud, the "History of the Counties of Luzerne, Wyoming, &c., have given us a more accurate account of the event, which to-day we commemorate; which some however, have gone so far as to pronounce, not a massacre, but a simple battle or skirmish. Yet in truth, although in extent it was but a skirmish compared with later conflicts upon our own soil,

the massacre of Wyoming, as General Dana said here a year ago, was far reaching in its effects. Indeed it was not inferior to Lexington or Bunker Hill in its results for the liberties of America. But I find a third account of the Massacre in my library, and although this third account occurs in a work of fiction, it is by such works of fiction that many of the youths of America are misled, as to her history. This third account says, that on the 3d of July 1778, Brandt with 1000 Indians and tories came down on Wyoming falling "like a wolf on the fold." Investing Fort Wintermute, he massacred the defenders and took 200 scalps. then, as he stood in his tent, (which of course he always carried with him for the purpose) with the 200 scalps piled up before him, he cried to John Butler "800 scalps more and my revenge on Wyoming will be full— I shall be satisfied." The next hour he swooped down on the fort at Wyoming, defended by Col. Denison with 400 men, drew all into ambush except 60 and in a narrow defile of the mountains, (which must have been improvised for the occasion,) massacred and scalped all but 40, who escaped to the Fort. Then he and his Indians attacking the Fort, scaled the ramparts and scalped the 100 defenders; and as each man fell, pierced by the balls of the Indian rifle, Brandt, who was wading in the current of blood which flowed in the yard, sprang upon him and circling his head with his knife, tore the bloody scalp from the skull. When all were slain, Brandt, throwing in a pile before him the gory scalps exclaimed to John Butler, "I have my thousand scalps; henceforth I shall be known as Brandt the scourge of the white man. I am satisfied." So satiated was he that he even spared four prisoners, real citizens of Wilkesbarre for the stake, and that day he bound them to stakes, on the spot where Wilkesbarre now stands, and commanded his Mohawks to light the fagots. Just as they stooped to do his bidding there sprang from the forests (especially grown for the purpose) "one clad like a prophet, who cried out,

Avaunt thou fiend, in the name of the Great Spirit, scatter thy fire brands." The Mohawks arose in astonishment, and Brandt not willing to be thwarted in his revenge, springing towards the prophet "pierced his breast with his tomahawk." The prophet, as he reeled with the blow exclaimed, "Ah Brandt, Brandt! thou knowest not what thou hast done; *thou hast slain thine own father.*" With a yell of horror that thrilled the air, and filled the Indians with wonder, Brandt clasped the falling form in his arms and essayed to staunch the flow of blood, when he too, fell, pierced to the heart by a dozen balls from the rifles of 500 fresh Wyoming volunteers who came on the scene (and were made especially for this purpose.) "Then John Butler seeing his danger, fled to the house, in which the lady he loved, but who didn't love him, had gone for refuge. Springing upon the balcony where she watched this fearful scene, he essayed to clasp her in his arms that he might bear her to the forest, but the lover to whom she was betrothed, followed him, and as he reached the spot, with a strong left-handed sweep of his sword, he *severed Butler's head from his body.*

Gentlemen, which of these three histories of the stirring events of this day one hundred and three years ago, will you teach your children? Until you give to the world a carefully and accurately prepared account of this great event, you will never be able to give your posterity a true knowledge of the deeds of your forefathers. Bring your *children* to this spot, when you come one year hence. Instruct them carefully in the events you commemorate. Teach them to value the valor of their forefathers. Remove from their childhood's literature, the mythical accounts of the Massacre, and teach them intelligently and lovingly to honor and revere those whose blood was here shed for their liberties.

Dr. Hakes followed with the announcement that there was a conspiracy on foot to talk the audience to death,

and he was going to help do it if it could be done. He entered upon the subject of Wyoming by avowing that those who fought and fell on Wyoming's field didn't fight for us or their posterity, but for their cabins. They gave honest blows for their own lives and prosperity—not for that which we praise them for. He said it was creditable for their descendants to come here and celebrate this event, but for fifty years the very descendants of these men didn't even know, or try to find out, where these heroe's bones lay. He claimed that the lies and exaggerations about Wyoming's battle and Massacre, were grand in their vengeance, arousing energetic action, as they fired Sullivan to do things he never would have done hadn't the stories of the Massacre been put good and strong. Who is to say that it was not important because of the lies that were told about it? We don't know, said he, whether the spirits of these men who died here look down on us, and those assembled from time to time, but if they do they have good things said of them, and we will be remembered for remembering them, and we ought to be.

Dr. Dunning was called upon, and said that though not as familiar with the history of Wyoming as he ought to be, he had become deeply interested in this anniversary exercise and hoped it would be retained in the interest of the community and perpetuated from year to year.

After music, "America was sung, and a benediction by Rev. E. H. Snowden, the exercises concluded, and the members of the Association and their invited friends, ladies and gentlemen, to the number of forty-five, left the grounds and repaired to the Wyoming Hotel, where a sumptuous repast was enjoyed by the company. Mrs. Judge Pfouts, of Hanover—a grand-daughter of Captain Lazarus Stewart—offered a resolution that hereafter the dinners of the Association be fixed at the Wyoming Hotel. It was unanimously carried, after which the chairman,

Col. Dorrance, thanked the assembled guests for their attendance and interest, and hoped each would come from year to year and do likewise, and that the custom would be perpetuated until the great grand-sons of those present became great grandfathers.

Judge Dunn then rose to place himself on record as protesting, in a very decided way, against an idea that had been presented and considerably commented upon at the monument ground, to the effect that the battle and massacre of Wyoming were very much of the myth order. He needed no more evidence of the untenableness of this theory than the significant fact that no prisoners were taken in that struggle, and that all engaged either escaped or were on the spot most cruelly dispatched. He admitted that while the battle and massacre may have been exaggerated in many respects, in others he believed justice had never been done those who fought and fell—that the deeds of valor and heroism done by these men were greater than we ever credited them for. He believed they were the greater and the grandeur because they fought without support, with nothing whatever to rely upon. He didn't want the myth theory to get any ground; he wanted these occasions continued: he desired to see this room crowded every year with friends of the movement. He wanted to preserve the memory of this event, and to do so apart from the Historical and Geological Society. It had been charged that this was a conflicting association with the Historical, whereas it is an ally of that society. He spoke of the ladies present and referred to the part that women had taken on that occasion of which this is a memorial. He spoke warmly in favor of earnest and enthusiastic labor in the cause, and more work *before* than *at* 10 a. m. on the morning of the next 3d of July, to which time this meeting now stands adjourned.

# THE MONUMENT.

ALMOST half a century had elapsed before any determined movement, so far as we know, toward erecting a monument to commemorate the fate of those who fell near Fort Wintermute on the 3d day of July, 1778, which disastrous conflict has long been known as "the Indian battle" or "Wyoming Massacre," was made on the 22d day of July 1826, in the village of Wilkesbarre. The Committee appointed at this initial meeting held another meeting on the 9th of August following, when General William Ross was called to the chair and Arnold Colt appointed Secretary. At this meeting a preamble and resolutions were adopted expressive of the sense of the meeting; among other things it was said:

"Forty eight years have rolled away since the bones of the fathers of this valley were committed to a common grave, and not a monument or beacon is erected to point to their sleeping dust," (and it might have been added, no man knoweth the exact place of their sepulture even unto this day.)

"The monuments and trophies of the dead are useful only to the living. They prompt the rising generation to that noble devotion, that heroic daring, and that ardent love of country, which is at once the strength and glory of a nation."

"Is there any one who has lost a relative or friend in that frightful massacre, who, in passing those memorable plains, does not feel an emotion of regret, that the ashes of those martyrs to savage fury lie unhonored by any monument to awaken the sad remembrance of their fall?"

Therefore, *Resolved*, that a monument be erected in memory of those who fell in the Wyoming Massacre."

A Committee to obtain subscriptions was then appointed, consisting of two or more persons for each township in Luzerne, as well as several in Bradford and Susquehanna counties in this State and Tioga county, New York. The Col., John Franklin, then of Bradford county was named as one of the Committeemen. Of the entire list of names, seventy five in number, only three were living on the 3d of July 1878; viz; Henry Roberts of Falls township, 87 years of age. Abram Honeywell, of Dallas, 85, and John Gore of Kingston 83. Steuben Butler of Wilkesbarre, Editor of the paper in which the proceedings of the meeting were published, was still living at the age of 90. He died on the 12th of August 1881.

On the 3rd of July 1832 "a large assembly convened at the opening of the grave for the purpose of paying a tribute to those heroes who were killed in the Wyoming Battle and massacre, and to adopt measures preparatory to erecting a monument."

Rev. James May delivered an address suitable to the occasion; among other things said by the speaker were:

"I find myself here in the midst of some venerable citizens who were in the ranks which faced the enemy on that memorable 3d of July, and who survived the perils and sufferings of that terrible day, and the vicissitudes of more than half a century since— * * The enemy's force was from 900 to 1,200 men, of whom upwards of 400 were Indians, headed by their Chief Brandt. On this dreadful day about 300 were killed or missing and never heard of, and about 230 wives made widows.

"See, fellow citizens," said the speaker, "the sacrifice which was made by the first civilized tenants of this valley! The grave containing their bones is uncovered before you. You see for yourselves the marks of the tomahawk and scalping knife on the heads which are here uncovered, after having rested for more than fifty years. Peace be in this grave! Sacred be the memory of them that sleep here."

Then addressing himself to the survivors of the battle, said; "Venerable citizens; we respect you for your years, we honor you for the part you bore in the doings, and sufferings of those days, we love and cherish the principles of liberty which animated you; we owe you a debt of gratitude for the happy inheritance you did your part to preserve unimpaired to your children. * * On this day, and where you now are, you cannot but think of what you once saw in this place. We would stand aside while you look into this grave and see the bones of your brothers, which fifty-four years ago you assisted in sadly laying here. We would not intrude whilst you stand beside these bones, and think how you stood beside your friends when they lived. For your sake we are glad this day has come. We rejoice to think that you may yet see a stone raised here, on which the names of those you laid in this spot are engraven. May the strangers who in after times may visit this spot, and see here a stone raised in memory of those who fell in the conflict ever find here a population worthy of their parentage; may the features of those heroes live in their posterity. Though the air I first breathed was not of this valley, I am proud to be amongst you. My heart is with you in the object of this days meeting. When the bones which we see here before us shall rise from their bed of dust, and ours with them, may we have an inheritance which wars shall never disturb. The inheritance which blood, but not that of man, has purchased.

Rev. Nicholas Murray ("Kirwan") being called upon for a few extemporaneous remarks, spoke as follows;

This paper, which I hold in my hand, is a subscription paper for the erection of a monument over the bones of the patriots murdered at the battle of Wyoming. I am requested by the committee of arrangement to present it for your signatures.

And why is it my fellow citizens, that we are permitted to meet here to-day under such auspicious circumcumstances? Why from these western mountains is not the war-whoop of the Indian heard to disturb our quiet? Why is not the peaceful bosom of yonder river disturbed by the swift gliding canoe bearing to the midst of us the savage foe thirsting for our blood? Why permitted to live with so much comfort, and so little fear, on this fertile soil, and in the midst of blessings which are but rarely surpassed? Let this scalped skull (holding up the skull of one of the victims bearing plain marks of a murderous tomahawk upon it,) answer. These heroes whose mouldering bones are before us, met the savage foe on the very soil we are now treading, and purchased everything we love at the price of their lives. And will you, their sons and successors, refuse them a monument? Whilst over many an ignoble grave is erected the speaking marble, will you permit these remains of your brave ancestry to sleep in silence and solitude without a stone to tell the passing stranger where they rest? I feel justified in saying for you all, *I know you will not.*

You see these bleached heads and bending forms around me. These worthy sires of the rising generation have come down to us from the last century, and were the companions of the heroes to whose manly frames these mouldering bones belonged. Could the breath of life be breathed into these bones—could they rise in the possession of living energy, they would find even among this small remnant a few brothers and sons. As the gentleman on my right (Rev, James May) was narrating the

incidents of the terrible massacre, I saw the tear stealing down the furrowed cheeks of these fathers of our community. That tear told me they felt, that they deeply felt and remembered in agony of spirit the more than savage tortures inflicted upon their unfortunate bretheren and friends, companions in arms, on that fearful day of blood upon this plain. And methinks there is not a heart in this vast concourse that does not sympathize with them. They desire that a monument shall be erected over the common grave of their fathers and brothers and companions. And do you not, my fellow citizens sympathize with them?—I know you do. I feel persuaded that you are anxious to place a liberal subscription on this paper before you retire from this place. You covet the honor of contributing to the erection of the Wyoming monument. My great fear is that we shall not all have the privilege of giving. I would therefore caution the rich (this caution was shown to be entirely unnecessary in the light of future events) not to indulge their patriotic feelings too freely, least they should be debarred the privilege of contributing their mite. We all want to have, each one, his stone in the monument, and poor as I am I want to give my dollar for that purpose.

A word to the managers of the concern. In erecting this monument lay its foundations deep, where the wave of time cannot reach it. Build it firm and strong that the winds and the storms cannot shake it. Erect it high toward heaven, that it may catch the first ray of the rising, and reflect the last of the setting sun. And far up towards its summit, let it bear aloft, on every side, and in letters of gold, the eloquent inscription placed over the ashes of the great Conde, changed only to express the plural, *Sta, Viator, calcas heroem* and then, to all coming generations it will be a memento of the valor of their ancestry. It will teach them the price at which their liberty was purchased, and the value they should set upon it. It will teach them that the possession of civil

and religious liberty is more valuable than that of life. If ever the foot of a despot shall tread upon our extended and happy shores, a glance at the monument of Wyoming will rouse the spirit of her sons; will kindle in their bosoms the patriotism of their fathers, and will bring them to the noble resolution, that if despotism *must* come, it must march over their lifeless bodies; and lifting its towering column toward that heaven, to which we humbly hope some of the spirits that animated these bones have ascended, it will say through all the coming years to every stranger that passes,

*Stop traveller, here rest the ashes of the Wyoming heroes.*

## LAYING THE CORNER STONE.

On the 3d of July 1833 the corner stone of the Wyoming monument was laid with great pomp amid salvos of musketry firing, the sound of which came to the childish ear of the writer hereof across the quiet waters of the Susquehanna, and is now remembered with vivid distinctness. Hon. Chester Butler grand-son of Col. Zebulon Butler, pronounced an oration and eulogium upon the dead, well worthy of the occasion and the man who pronounced it. After a brief reference to the well known leading incidents of the battle, Mr. Butler said, "who will attempt to portray the fatal issue of the fight? It would require an angel's voice and an angel's tongue to adequately tell the tragic conclusion. I might perhaps revive in the minds of these venerable survivors, who have been so long preserved and handed down to us as honored relics of that dread day, pleased but melancholy witnesses of these solemn ceremonies, a recollection of those events—of their own hair breadth escape, and of what they saw of the struggle and death of their associates. I might point them to these mutilated bones of slaughtered friends, once instinct with life and animated with

like spirit with themselves, and remind them that perhaps that broken limb belonged to him they passed

"In the lost battle borne down by the flying,"

vainly calling for that aid which none could render—that the fatal blow which bore to the earth that crushed skull, rang its death knell in their ears, the unheeded prayers for mercy cut short by the swift descending stroke. But I forbear. Let us draw a veil over the scene, and call back our thoughts to the more pleasing duties for which we are here assembled.

We have now laid the foundation of a structure which shall evince to future ages the grateful sense we entertain of our obligations to the patriotic dead, and the admiration we feel for their character and principles. Too long have they slept in an unhonored grave. * *

It never should be forgotten, that our fathers planted the Tree of Liberty and watered it with their blood; that they fenced it round with the stony wall of the Union upon which was inscribed "Union and Liberty,—one and inseparable—now and forever." Safe and untouched by hostile hands the tree still flourishes, and yet unbroken is the wall that protects us, and shall our fathers' sons be permitted to break down the walls of safety, and put forth a sacrilegious hand to the tree, pluck its foliage and lop its branches, till it stands a lifeless trunk, shorn of its leafy honors, a monument of our folly and degeneracy? God grant that we may never be called to meet our brothers in mortal combat—but, rather than see the tree stripped of a single leaf, or one stone placed for its protection removed, here let us vow, here on this altar consecrated by the blood of martyrs—and with their bleached bones at our feet, while their pleased spirits are hovering above us ready to carry the grateful vow to Heaven's registry—here let us swear to offer up our fortunes and our lives a willing sacrifice for its defense,—for, "a day—an hour of virtuous liberty is worth a whole eternity of bondage."

If this speech had been made in the beginning of the year 1861, it could not have been more applicable to the time and questions then agitating the minds of the American people. But to those who can remember the "Nullification" days of 1832-3 the sentiment herein dwelt upon will not be regarded as in any wise prophetic or out of place.

It was considered by many of our people, that as Connecticut was the mother of old Wyoming, and as this was as an integral part of her territory up to the time of the Decree of Trenton, and the forces raised here for the revolutionary war were credited to Connecticut, it would not be asking too much to invite a contribution from the State of Connecticut to help complete the monument now at a stand still for want of funds to continue the work. Accordingly in 1839 a committee consisting of Gen. Wm. Ross, Hezekiah Parsons and Charles Miner, all natives of that State, repaired to Hartford, where the Legislature was in session, and asked for an appropriation of $3,000 to complete the monument. Their cause was warmly espoused, and the petition presented by Hon. Lafayette S. Foster, and a joint committee of the Senate and the House appointed to consider the question. The Hon. Isaac Toucy lent the great weight of his influence in its favor, and a unanimous report was made granting the prayer of the petitioners; but it failed to receive the sanction of a majority of the members, and therefore was lost.

In 1841 a new memorial was presented; accompanied by a paper setting forth the reasons why Connecticut ought in justice to contribute to the fund. The resolution passed the lower House almost unanimously but failed in the Senate. Still another effort was made in the following year, with no better result, and no money was ever received from Connecticut, except the sum of $5, contributed by Erastus Ellsworth of Windsor.

The following brief and very interesting history of the building of the monument, and the incidents connected therewith, from the pen of Payne Pettebone, Esq., of Wyoming, explains itself and we shall offer no further comment. We will only state, as a matter of fact, that Mr. Pettebone was born, and has lived all his life on the ground near the monument, and perhaps has a clearer and more certain knowledge of every thing pertaining to its building and early history than any other person now living.

WYOMING, NOV. 8th 1881.

*Wesley Johnson, Esq., Wilkesbarre.*

*Dear Sir:*

Your favor of the 30th September, requesting some facts relating to the history of the Wyoming monument for use in preparing a chapter on the subject for the Centennial Book soon to be published under the auspices of the Centennial Association of 1878, was duly received. I have delayed a reply to suit my convenience because you informed me that there was no hurry about it.

Early in the year 1832 considerable interest was awakened on the subject of suitably marking the place of burial of the slain in the massacre of July 3d 1778, and some prospecting for the spot was had without success, because it was in the midst of a field which had been plowed over for many years, and the mound, if any had ever existed, was entirely obliterated. Some rivalry was gotten up between two political clubs in Wilkesbarre representing the two factions of the Democratic party: The "Hickory Club" at the head of which was Gen. William Ross, and the "Democratic Hickory Club" whose leader was Andrew Beaumont. William Swetland, who was a member of the latter club, undertook at the suggestion of his fellows to find the bones. He made a contract with Philip Jackson, then of Forty Fort, a former resident on and owner of the farm, to pay him $20, if he succeeded

in discovering the place of interment and finding the bones. Mr. Jackson prepared an iron rod, about six feet in length, barbed at the point intended for probing the earth, as he knew very nearly, but not exactly where the grave was located, and on the 22d of May, 1832, on his way to the field to make search, stopped at the store of Mr. Swetland where I was at the time employed as clerk, exhibited his implement and explained his intended mode of operation. After an absence of about two hours from the store, he returned and reported his success in finding the bones, and secured the reward offered for their finding, to the mutual gratification of all concerned. The club was much elated over the success of Mr. Jackson, and the result was announced in the *Republican Farmer*, May 23d 1832.

On the 3d of July 1832, there was a large public gathering of citizens on the ground and speeches were made by Rev. James May, a distinguished Divine of the Episcopal Church and the Rev. Nicholas Murray, a Presbyterian, who afterwards became famous as "Kirwan," the *nom de plume* he assumed in hiscelebrated religious discussion with Archbishop Hughes. The grave being opened, the bones were exposed before the speakers and the people assembled. A subscription was then opened for building a monument, and a committee appointed consisting of Gen. Wm. Ross, Fisher Gay, Erastus Hill, Charles D. Shoemaker and Col. John L. Butler, for the purpose of forwarding the undertaking. In December 1832, Col. Hill, who resided here on the ground, and having active charge commenced the work of quarrying on our western mountains, and delivering the stone for the foundation and vault.

In the Spring of 1833, the bones of eighty three skeletons, were removed from the common grave, and being placed in three large dry goods boxes, were kept in the back office of Mr. Swetland's store, adjoining my sleeping room, where I lodged with them until they were deposited in the monument vault, December 5th 1833.

Some of the most mutilated and interesting specimens of the skeletons having marks of the tomahawk, scalping-knife or bullet holes in and on them, were reserved, as intended to be placed in a suitable case in the chamber of the monument for exhibition to visitors to this shrine in after years. As to marks of violence, my recollection is, that there were very few, if any skulls which had not plain marks of the scalping knife, and many had cuts made by backs of the tomahawk which indicated the clean cut made by a sharp instrument. On the 3d of July 1833, the corner stone of the monument was laid in the presence of a large assemblage of people. The principle address on this occasion was delivered by Hon. Chester Butler. Mangan & Blanchard were contractors for the cut stone, and they commenced work about the 1st of June 1833, and quit about the last of June 1834; the monument being raised at that time to a height of about twenty feet—a considerable quantity of stone cut, or partly cut being left scattered about the grounds. The stone used were brought from what has since been known as the "Monument Quarry" near Doty's place on the East side of the Susquehanna, a distance of about three miles, and brought over at Miller's Ferry.

The monument and grounds remained in an unfinished and neglected condition until work was resumed by Col. Morehead, contractor under the auspices of the "Ladies Monumental Association" in 1842. Some time in or prior to October 1843 the work was finished and the cap-stone fixed securely in its appropriate place.

During the interval between the suspension of work in 1834, and the resumption by Col. Morehead in 1842, the Ladies of Wilkesbarre and Kingston, organized the "Ladies' Monumental Association," and considerable money was raised for the completion of the work, and in aid of the fund the Ladies of Kingston, Wyoming, and Exeter, on the 24th of June 1841, furnished a dinner on the grounds to a large company, and realized the sum of

$343.49, which was placed in the hands of Mrs. Charles D. Shoemaker to be added to the fund. I have a list of the names of all persons partaking of this dinner or paying for tickets as taken at the table, and copied by me in a small pass-book. To me it is a very interesting document, as a record of the prominent and active people in the Valley forty years ago, as well as a memento of the difficulties to be encountered in providing means for completing a work in which we all feel a pardonable, if not commendable pride.

After finishing the stone work of the monument, the grounds were still without a proper fence or enclosure, and appeared in a neglected and confused condition, with spalled fragments of rough and broken rock scattered about over the adjoining grounds, just as they had fallen under the heavy blows of the workmen's hands; and the openings into the internal chamber were left without doors or other protection to guard the interior of the monument.

This neglected condition of the monument and grounds called out some just criticism from the press and otherwise, and on the occasion of the visit of Governor Shunk in 1846, a dinner was provided at the monument which realized the sum of $206, which amount was paid over to the Ladies' Association for the work of enclosing and adorning the grounds, but the funds in hand not being judged sufficient to complete the work, nothing was done by way of improvement at that time.

At this dinner Nathan Beach presided. The Hon. Robert T. Conrad of Philadelphia had been invited to deliver the formal address, but was prevented by business engagements from attending to that duty, though he attended and took a less important part in the proceedings. Dr. Thomas W. Miner was assigned at a late day to fill his place, and acquitted himself in a highly satisfactory manner, delighting the large audience of more than four thousand with a chaste and eloquent address, it being one of the best efforts of his life.

In February 1848 Mr. Fisher Gay made a public appeal on the subject, complaining of inconveniences and annoyances suffered by him, (he being then the owner of the monument farm,) in consequence of the exposure of his crops by leaving the ground thus unfenced—Reminded the people, that in his proposition to give the lot it was to be fenced in one year, and now fifteen years had elapsed and still no fence, and nothing had been done to fulfill the engagement. This appeal resulted in a temporary awakening and some scolding, but accomplished nothing.

Some years later, an act of Assembly was passed, incorporating the "Wyoming Monumental Association," after which the Ladies made an effort to plant the grounds with trees and shrubbery, but this effort was only partially successful, the ground being unprepared and unenclosed, and I think none of this planting now remains alive.

Thus matters remained until the year 1864, when at a meeting of the Historical and Geological Society, I called attention to the condition of the monument and its surroundings, and suggested the propriety of the improvement being undertaken under the auspices of the society. On motion of Andrew T. McClintock Esq., a committee consisting of Payne Pettebone, Gen. Wm. S. Ross and Col. Charles Dorrance was appointed "to collect funds to defray the expense of finishing the Wyoming Monument, enclose and improve the grounds of the same." A subscription book was procured on the spot, and the heading drawn up by Calvin Wadhams Esq., Secretary of the Society, and resulted in raising the sum of $985.65, which included the sum of $268,66 previously deposited with the Ladies' Association.

On account of lack of funds for an iron fence it was decided to build a wooden one, and in March 1864, I went to Dauphin, and finally to York County where I found at Mt. Wolfe, a thrifty growth of yellow locust which had just been cut and split, which I purchased and shipped

by Rail Road to be used as posts in making the fence. While in Dauphin County, I will remark by way of parenthesis, I was shown by a gentleman a fence built by his father over sixty years ago, with yellow Locust posts, still standing, apparently as sound as on the day it was erected.

The trees and shrubbery at present growing there were purchased of Parsons & Co., of Flushing Long Island, were planted early in May 1864, the grounds having been previously graded and prepared by hauling thereon good soil for planting trees where the natural thin and sandy soil had become barren and denuded by the workmen about the monument. As a favorable result of this careful system of planting, scarcely any of the trees failed, and generally give evidence of a healthy and thrifty growth. The fence was built in August and September 1864, and the painting completed in October of the same year.

## TITLE TO THE LOT.

As some apprehension has been expressed in reference to the title to the monument lot, I desire to set at rest any fears that may exist on that subject, by giving a chain of title, as it appears on record. As I have before stated, Fisher Gay Esq., was the owner of the land on which the monument is erected. Originally there was a voluntary gift by him to the Monumental Committee, of half an acre of land on which to build the monument but no contract is known to be in existence. This agreement has been recognized and confirmed by Mr. Gay's successors. The original contract being lost or mislaid, if any was ever executed, the Committee on fencing and improving the grounds, procured, on the 30th of April 1864, a deed for half an acre as enclosed, described by metes and bounds, to the Wyoming Monumental Association, a body corporate under the laws of this Commonwealth. So that no further question as to title need be raised.

Respectfully Yours, &c.,

PAYNE PETTEBONE.

A brief of title to the Wyoming monument grounds:

Deed 23rd April 1856. Fisher Gay to Payne Pettebone; Recorded in Deed Book 63, page 303 &c. Acknowledged 23d April 1856. Recorded May 21 1856

In this conveyance is the following reservation: "It is expressly understood and agreed, that the said Fisher Gay having himself hitherto entered into an agreement, to convey to the Wyoming Monument Committee, under certain conditions the surface right to a lot not exceeding one half an acre, embracing the land upon which the monument is erected and contiguous thereto for the sole purpose of an enclosure for the said monument, now the said lot is conveyed to the said Pettebone, his heirs and assigns to be held in the same right by which it is held by the said Gay, and to be subject to the same liabilities that Gay is responsible for in the said premises."

Deed 29th April 1856, Payne Pettebone and wife to Moses Willis Woodward, Deed Book 65, page 597. Acknowledged 29th April 1856. Recorded 21 May 1856. Same land. "Subject however to the terms of a certain agreement heretofore made by Fisher Gay, grantor to Payne Pettebone," as recited above.

Deed 30th April 1864, Moses W. Woodward to the Wyoming Monumental Association. Deed Book 94, page 599, &c. Acknowledged 16th July 1864. Recorded 27th July.

Description:—Begins on the main road and runs southeasterly ten rods on line parallel to the south west face of monument, and about 65 feet from the axis thereof—thence by lines parallel with the sides of the monument to place of beginning containing one-half an acre of land, and stated as being same piece embraced in the agreement of Fisher Gay and reservation of Payne Pettebone.

By the foregoing it will be seen that the surface title to the ground on which the monument stands is perfectly good and sufficient; the only fear being that the Company owning the coal deep down in the earth

may at some future day, and not very far in the future either, undermine the monument in such a way as to endanger its safety and stability in the event of a cave-in of the working below.

The monument is a plain obelisk in the dark gray stone of the valley cut on the face and laid in blocks of from twelve to fifteen inches in thickness, and of convenient lengths.

It is in height sixty two feet six inches from the surface of the ground, rectangular in form and of proper proportions to render it graceful and of architectural propriety, with four equal sides. The base rises three steps from the foundation, in which is a chamber containing the bones of the victims, so far as the bodies were recovered. Resting on the base is a square die with a tablet of marble let into each face. The one on the north-west contains the following appropriate inscription by Edward C. Mallery, great grandson of Colonel Butler:

Near this spot was fought
On the afternoon of Friday, the third day of
July, 1778,
*THE BATTLE OF WYOMING,*
In which a small band of patriotic Americans,
Chiefly the undisciplined, the youthful and the aged,
Spared by inefficiency from the distant ranks of the Republic,
Led by Col. Zebulon Butler and Col. Nathan Denison,
With a courage that deserved success,
Boldly met and bravely fought
A combined British, Tory and Indian force
of thrice their number.
Numerical superiority alone gave success to the invader,
And wide spread havoc, desolation and ruin
Marked his savage and bloody footsteps through the Valley.
*THIS MONUMENT,*
Commemorative of these events,
and of the actors in them
has been erected
*OVER THE BONES OF THE SLAIN,*
By their descendants and others, who gratefully
appreciated
the services and sacrifices of their patriot
ancestors.

Those on the south-west and north-east sides contain the names of the slain so far as was known at the time of the building; a few names have since been added to the list which is now as follows:

DULCE ET DECORUM EST PRO PATRIA MORI.

SLAIN IN BATTLE.

FIELD OFFICERS.

*Lt. Col. George Dorrance, Major Jonathan Waite Garrett.

CAPTAINS.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| James Bidlack, jr., | Rezin Geer, | Samuel Ransom, |
| Aholiab Buck, | Dethick Hewitt, | Lazarus Stewart, |
| Robert Durkee, | Wm. McKarrachen, | James Wigdon, |
| | | Asaph Whittlesey. |

LIEUTENANTS.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| A. Atherton, | Flavius Waterman, | Elijah Shoemaker, |
| Aaron Gaylord, | Stoddart Bowen, | Asa Stevens, |
| Perrin Ross, | Timothy Peirce, | James Wells, |
| Lazarus Stewart, jr. | | |

ENSIGNS.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Jeremiah Bigford, | Jonathan Otis, | Titus Hinman, |
| Silas Gore, | Asa Gore, | William White. |

PRIVATES.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Jabez Atherton, | D. Denton, | Joshua Landon, |
| Christopher Avery. | Anderson Dana, | Daniel Lawrence, |
| Ackke. | Conrad Davenport, | William Lawrence, |
| | George Downing, | Francis Ledyard, |
| A. Benedict, | James Devine, | James Lock, |
| Jabez Beers, | Levi Dunn, | Conrad Lowe, |
| Samuel Bigford, | William Dunn, | Jacob Lowe, |
| David Bixby, | Ducher, | William Lester, |
| Elias Bixby, | | |
| John Boyd, | Benjamin Finch, | C. McCartee, |
| John Brown, | Daniel Finch, | Nicholas Manville, |
| Thomas Brown, | John Finch, | Nero Matthewson, |
| William Buck, | Elisha Fish, | Alexander McMillan, |
| Joseph Budd, | Cornelius Fitchett, | Job Marshall, |
| Amos Bullock, | Eliphalet Follett, | Andrew Millard, |
| Asa Bullock, | Thomas Faxon, | John Murphy, |
| Henry Bush, | John Franklin, | Robert McIntire, |
| Eson Brockway, | Stephen Fuller, | |
| John Caldwell, | Thomas Fuller, | Joseph Ogden, |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Josiah Carman, | George Gore, | Abel Palmer, |
| Joseph Cary, | Gardner, | Silas Parke, |
| Joel Church, | Green, | William Parker, |
| William Cofferin, | | John Pierce, |
| James Cofferin, | Benjamin Hatch, | Henry Pencil, |
| Samuel Cole, | Wiliam Hammon, | Noah Pettebone, jr., |
| Isaac Campbell, | Silas Harvey, | |
| Campbell, | Samuel Hutchinson, | Jeremiah Ross, jr., |
| Robert Comstock, | Cyprian Hebard, | Elisha Richards, |
| Kingsley Comstock, | Levi Hicks, | William Reynolds, |
| Brothers Cook, | John Hutchins, | Elias Roberts, |
| Brothers Cook, | James Hopkins, | Timothy Rose, |
| Brothers Cook, | Nathaniel Howard, | |
| Christopher Courtright, | Zipporah Hubbard, | Abram Shaw, |
| John Courtright, | Elijah Inman, | James Shaw, |
| Anson Corey, | Israel Inman, | Joseph Shaw, |
| Jenks Corey, | | Constant Searle, |
| Rufus Corey, | | Abel Sercy, |
| Joseph Crocker, | Samuel Jackson, | Levi Spencer, |
| Samuel Crocker, | Robert Jameson, | Eleazer Sprague, |
| | Joseph Jennings, | Aaron Stark, |
| Jabez Darling, | Henry Johnson, | Daniel Stark, |
| | | Josiah Spencer, |
| Darius Spofford, | John Van Wie, | Eson Wilcox, |
| James Spencer, | | John Williams, |
| Joseph Staples, | Elihu Waters, | John Ward, |
| Reuben Staples, | Jonathan Weeks, | John Wilson, |
| Rufus Stevens, | Bartholomew Weeks, | Parker Wilson, |
| James Stevenson, | Philip Weeks, | William Woodring, |
| Nailer Sweed, | Peter Wheeler, | Aziba Williams, |
| | Stephen Whiton, | Wade, |
| Gamaliel Truesdale, | Eben Wilcox, | Ozias Yale, |
| Ichabod Tuttle, | Elihu Williams, jr., | |
| Abram Vangorder, | Rufus Williams, | Gershom Prince, colored. |

Lieut. Boyd, killed at Forty Fort after the Battle.

On the south-east side over the door leading to the vault is a slab containing a list of the survivors as follows :

COLONELS,

Zebulon Butler, Nathan Denison.

LIEUTENANTS,

Daniel Gore, Timothy Howe.

ENSIGNS,

Daniel Downing, Matthias Hollenback.

SERGEANT.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Jabez Fish, | Phineas Spafford, | Gates. |

PRIVATES.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| John [illegible]ett, | Thomas Fuller, | Joseph Morse, |
| Gideon Baldwin, | John Garrett, | Thomas Neill, |
| Zera Beach, | Samuel Gore, | |
| Rufus Bennett, | Lemuel Gustin, | Josiah Pell, |
| Solomon Bennett, | James Green, | Phineas Peirce, |
| Elisha Blackman, | | Abraham Pike, |
| | Lebbeus Hammond, | |
| Nathan Carey, | Jacob Haldron, | John N. Skinner, |
| Samuel Carey, | Elisha Harris, | Giles Slocum, |
| George Cooper, | Ebenezer Heberd; | Walter Spencer, |
| | William Heberd, | Edward Spencer, |
| Joseph Elliott, | | Amos Stafford, |
| | Richard Inman, | Roger Searle, |
| Samuel Finch, | David Inman, | |
| Roswell Franklin, | | Cherrick Westbrook, |
| Hugh Forsman, | John Jamison, | Eleazer West, |
| | Henry Lockers, | Daniel Washburn. |

PRISONERS TAKEN FROM WYOMING.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| John Gardner, | Daniel Wallen, | Elisha Wilcox, |
| Daniel Carr, | Daniel Rosencrans, | Pierce. |
| Samuel Carey. | | |

KILLED ON APPROACH TO WYOMING.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| William Crooks, | Stukeley Harding, | Wm. Martin, |
| Miner Rogers, | James Hadsell, | Quocko, [colored.] |
| Benjamin Harding, | James Hadsall, jr. | |

Above the die is a projecting cornice of some two feet in thickness, the whole supporting the obelisk proper which tapers upwards, terminating in one solid cap-stone in the form of a flattened pyramid at the apex.

The entire cost of the monument, including shrubbery and fencing the lot has been something over eight thousand dollars.

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## A HITHERTO UNPUBLISHED ACCOUNT OF THE BATTLE.

The following affidavit may have no particular effect in shedding new light on the events of the battle and its attendant horrors and is introduced here merely as con-

firming the history we already have on that subject; and being thus solemnly sworn to so soon after the battle may be regarded as truthful and reliable. The original affidavit is now (1878) in the possession of Dr. Charles G. McChesney, of Trenton N. J., and has never heretofore been given in any of the histories of Wyoming. It was discovered by the committee on historical matters connected with this Association, and is now first given to the public:—

"Wallpack, Sussex County }
July 8th, 1778. }

Personally appeared before me, Timothy Symmes, one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas for this county, one Jeames Green, one of the inhabitants of Wyoming, who being sworn on the Holy Evangelist of Allmighty God, deposeth and saith that he was one of (persons) destined to defend a fort in Kingston, and that the enemies commanded by Col. Butler and one English Lieut. Col., and the King Owago an Indian commander, with part of six tribes of Indians, 800, who fought well without taking to trees, but lay flat on their bellies to fire and load. Said Green says that these men to the amount of twelve hundred as he heard, came within three or four miles of the fort he was in, on Friday the 3d day of this instant; on the morning of which day the enemies sent in a flag to Col. Denison to demand the fort, with offer of good quarters upon their surrender, and threatening men women and children with emediate death if one gun was fired against them. He says he thinks no answer was returned by this flag. About two or three hours after, the same flag came in again. He says he knew the man well. He was one Daniel Engerson [Ingersoll] who they took prisoner at the first fort. He brought much the same proposals as he brought before, which were still rejected. To a challenge they sent in to our people to fight Col. Butler, Dennes [Denison] and Durrence [Dorrance] with all the men they had which ware 3 or 4 hundred, marched to the place appointed at

the appointed time, and not finding the enemies there, they waited about one hour, and then marched up the river until they met the enemy, when a battle began on the right wing, which extended to the left in about one minute and continued very smart on both sides; but our people were partly surrounded on the left wing in the space of ten minutes, when the left wing of our people fled to the amount of about 20 men; the others of our people fought about one hour when they were surrounded by superior numbers, and some killed and some drove into the river, where many perished. Some got to an Island in the river where they found Indians plenty to murder them. He says he has seen one Bill Hammon who was taken on the Island with 6 or 7 more who were made to set down, when the Indians tomahawked them one after another, but before it came to his turn, he said he jumpt up and run and made his escape by swimming to the lower end of the Island.

S'd Green says that the night after the Battle he saw the fires and heard the noise of a Grand Cantacoy (*) amongst the Indians, who he, said Green judges were burning their prisoners alive; he says it was the judgement of others besides himself; for the flag bearer who was the next day in the fort told them that he did not know that there was a prisoner alive among them; and that he had seen an hundred and ninety four scalps in one heape. He further says that the fort was surrendered or evacuated the next day after the Battle when the people fled towards the Dellaware River, and in the night sent back George Cooper and Jeames Stiles, who went to the top of the mountain and saw the houses from the lower end of Wyoming about haff ways to the upper end, all in flames, and it was supposed they meant to burn the whole settlement.

*Sworn before me* }
*Timothy Symmes.* } JAMES GREEN."

(*) Note.—I do not find the word "Cantacoy" in Webster's Dictionary, but it is a good Yankee word, meaning a jolly time, boisterous merry making by several persons assembled.—Spelling in affidavit same as original.—(EDITOR.)

# ADDENDUM.

## THE PIONEER PREACHER

EW OF the pioneers who stood foremost in the more stirring events of our valley have lacked able historians to record their deeds, either of valor or ability to govern men and guide the state in times when leading spirits were needed. There is, however one profession that has never received suitable recognition at the hands of our local historians, and one man whose humble and retiring life incidents, have with few exceptions, ever been thought worthy of mention. In order to do justice to an honored profession, and to one who gave a quarter of a century of his life to the task of promoting the spiritual welfare of this people; one by whose sanction the marriage feasts of our ancestors were solemnized; and he who stood by the open graves of the, perhaps rude forefathers of the hamlet, as their remains were lowered to their last sleep, and by his presence and words of consolation comforted the mourners in their desolated homes, the following sketch in the nature of a romance, but true in all its essential details, has been prepared.

The year of our Lord 1722 was dying in the night The storm that swept the New England coast was driving fiercely over its rugged hills and sparsely cultivated valleys—a Connecticut mother with a tall, dark-haired boy of ten by her side was kneeling in prayer at the family altar, as the clocks in the little town of Groton chimed forth the close of the old and beginning of a new year. She was a pious mother, and as the storm howled without, and the drifting snow crept higher and higher up the small window panes of her humble cottage, she realized more than ever before, her dependence on the goodness of that Heavenly Father she had already vowed to love and serve ; and the great question arose in her mind, what can I, even I do in return for His many mercies shown me and my house ? and there, upon bended knees, while clasping the dearest treasure she possessed on earth to her bosom, she invoked the blessing of Almighty God upon that boy, and like the pious Hannah of old, vowed to dedicate him wholly to the service of the Lord. Time went on ; the gentle boy became a comely youth, honoring the pious teachings of that mother, and fitting himself by study and deportment for the high and holy calling he willingly espoused, and was destined to honor by his learning and his piety. Yale College received him as a worthy fellow ; the exemplary youth became a zealous student standing high in his class, and when he stood up before the assembled citizens to pronounce the graduating address, and to receive the honorable title of his Baccalaureate Degree, and the congratulations of the Faculty, that mother's heart glowed with honest and commendable pride, for the tall, dark intellectual young man was bearing his honors meekly as became a neophyte of the holy office in which he was destined to a life service ; her mission was fulfilled ; her one great object in life attained. There were no Bishops to lay hands on his head ; there were no synods to endow with superior grace the candidates for holy orders in the Congre-

gational Church of New England, where each was an independent unit. Soon he became the pastor of the little church at North Groton, now Wallingford, and proclaimed the gospel tidings with all his youthful ardor; but the young preacher's zeal and learning did not avail to win a rich harvest of souls to God; perhaps he was discouraged in the lack of appreciation by those quiet country folk, and he longed for a more extended walk and field of labor in the service of religion and of Jesus of Nazareth his acknowledged Lord and Master.

He became acquainted with and learned to love and respect the pious Sampson Occum, a christianized Indian of the tribe of Metacomet, and sympathized with him in his efforts to elevate his race by making of them a civilized and a christianized people by means of gospel instruction. His was the spirit of Loyola, and he knew no rest until he had entered the Great Wilderness, then the home of the powerful Iroquois, and proclaimed the truths of the Gospel of peace and love to the red man in his forest home. There was certainly danger, there might be death by torture reserved for him, but there he must go. At Canajoharie, at Fort Stanwix, at Oneida Castle, and perhaps at other frontier stations we find him laboring in the cause of his Master. He had secured the protection of Sir William Johnson, and gained the confidence of Brandt. He had learned the language of the Mohawks, and other Indian dialects, and could proclaim Him to these people in the language of the forest, and where they fancied the angry presence of the Great Spirit in the rushing winds of the tornado, the thunder's roar or the lightning's fatal stroke, he could tell them of the mercy of the Christian's God, point to the crucified Savior, and exhort them to turn from their savage rites and trust to the all healing blood of Jesus, shed upon the cross as a redemption for all nations and races of men.

Again we hear of him as the pioneer preacher of the Gospel under the protection of the Susquehanna Land

Company, invited to the far off Westmoreland Colony, that little Republic in the Wilderness, by "the river of the winding shore," about to pass through storms of war, and its fair plains to be drenched with paternal and fratricidal blood. Here he labored for years, preaching to the whites as well as to the Indians in their own tongue; sharing the hardships of frontier life in common with other settlers, but seeking not earthly possessions, he desired rather to possess the confidence and esteem of his neighbors than the rich lands of the valley.

From early life he claimed to possess the gift of prophesy and to some extent, that of seer. He became somewhat eccentric in his habits in the latter years of his life and seemed desirous of imitating him who was "the voice of one crying in the wilderness, prepare ye the way of the Lord," and confidently looked for the second coming of the Savior, and like him, he wore a girdle about his loins, and if his meat was not "locusts and wild honey," it was at least exceeding frugal. He was remarkably confiding and child-like in his intercouse with men; guileless himself he did not suspect the presence of it in others, and was a great favorite with young people.

> "E'en children followed with endearing wile,
> And plucked the good man's gown to share his smile."

In extemporaneous pulpit oratory he did not excel, but in prayer he threw his whole soul into the effort, forgetting surrounding objects, while with rapt yet simple utterances, he seemed communing with Deity himself, in pleading for the Heavenly favor to rest upon his people; he was then truly and fervently eloquent. Many of his sermons were written in poetic measure of no small literary merit; some of which in exceedingly neat and accurate chirography, the writer hereof has seen, but it is not known that any work of his hands now exists. The people called him "Priest," a title they did not accord to the inferior clergy.

V.

At length the tocsin of war sounded the alarm throughout the valley, for now the British and Indians under Butler and Brandt were pouring down through the northern gap and spreading terror and dismay in the plain below. He with other non-combatants sought shelter in the litte stockade at Forty Fort. To his care and counsel was confided the terror stricken women and children gathered within its frail enclosure. He saw the gallant three hundred march to glorious death on that fatal July afternoon, and wept with those who, with outstretched arms received and clasped the few survivors to their bosoms when all save honor was lost ; and when the terms of capitulation to the triumphant Briton were agreed upon, it was his hand that put them in form to receive the signatures of the high contracting parties.

In the fullness of time the infirmities of age crept on him ; his stooping form and failing strength admonish him that he is nearing the end of his earthly pilgrimage, and now a vision came upon him in the night time, informing him that he was about to die, and so certain was he of the truthfulness of the heavenly messenger, that he informed his family next morning of the approaching change with the same calmness and deliberation as though he was only making preparations for a short journey ; and as an earnest of his belief in the certainty of the event, having procured a mattock and spade, with heavy steps and slow, he climbed the steep ascent of the "redout" and passed up the ridge in the direction of what is now known as Westfield's Hill. It was in the early spring of 1797 ; snow lay in patches along the northern exposure ; to the southward the warm sunshine had quickened the early spring flowers, and the plants began to put forth tiny shoots of green ; the scattered leaves lay dead in the little hollows, or, stranded in hazel thickets, they rustled to the tread of the timid rabbit in his flight ; blue-birds were flitting here and there, and the robin was making a frugal meal from the scarlet cones of

the sumacs on the declivity. A little glade or plateau on the ridge is reached; it is a beautiful spot, just over his family burying place; the old man stopped to admire, as he had never done before in his accustomed rambles along the ridge; looking to the east and communing with his innermost consciousness, his mind took shape in thought, if not in words, by reflecting that, "here will the earliest beams of the morning, as they slant down into the valley, caress these slopes" and raising his hands in rapt admiration of the beauty of the western prospect, "here will parting day linger on this spot, while dark shadows fall athwart the intervales on either hand, and here will I be buried." He struck his mattock into the soft yellow earth, and finding the soil all he desired, he proceeded to mark out the length and breadth of a grave in due form; he continued at his task for some hours, but his feeble health would not admit of protracted labor, and it required some days to complete the task; at length he had shaped the narrow house appointed for all the living, on the day preceding the one on which he had foretold his end. Returning from his unusual task, he informed his youngest son of what he had done, and gave some directions for the funeral in a cheerful and unconcerned manner, and retired to his chamber for rest; but ere the morning sun shone in at his window, the angel of death had passed by that peaceful cottage and breathed in the face of the good old man as he slept, and there was mourning in the little hamlet.

The spot he had selected was on the crest of a sharp ridge, on a tract of fifteen acres of land that had been granted to him by the proprietors of the town, in consideration of his faithful services as Gospel minister; he had conveyed away four acres at the corner of Main and North streets, for a few shillings, reserving however, a piece four rods wide and five rods long, where his daughters were buried, (one of them having been the wife of Col. Zebulon Butler,) which he designed and intended should

remain a place of burial forever for his family. By some unaccountable negligence, his children never asserted their claim to this spot or took any steps towards maintaining their right of possession under the reservation in the deed of conveyance from him, which is one of the earliest in the records of Luzerne County. He nor his heirs, ever parted with the title to that land, and now by a sort of poetic justice, this same reserved burying ground of the "Pioneer Preacher of Wyoming," is the identical spot on which the beautiful "Memorial Church" is erected. What more fitting memorial to the first Congregational preacher in this valley, than this paternal tribute to departed children by a liberal citizen of Wilkesbarre, should be erected on the spot consecrated to the same pious use by him almost a century before? And while the stony arm of that beautiful edifice continues to point to the home of the living God, bearing aloft its golden emblem of a Christian's faith, as a memorial of them for whom it was erected—yes when its stones shall crumble to dust in the far off future—may each blade of grass on its green slopes as it awakens into life under a vernal sun, perpetuate the memory of those other dear ones, and the story of the pioneer preacher, JACOB JOHNSON.

## ERRATA.

Page 125. Sixth line from top, for "left" read "right."

Page 147. For "Brown" in second paragraph, read "Bowen."

Page 196. Ode to Wyoming. For "Richert," read "Richart."

Page 221. For "E. Ross Snowden," read "E. H. Snowden."

Page 243. For "Persevering genius," read "Persevering Genoese."

Page 322. For "prosperity," in fifth line from top, read "property."

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